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THE Annual Report of the Hon. the Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington is, beyond comparison, the most valuable Agricultural publication that issues from the teeming Press of this great Continent. The Report for the past year, embracing the statistical enquiries pertaining to 1870, is now before us, a portly volume of 688 pages, with numerous engravings. Nearly a quarter of a million of "extra copies" have been distributed by direction of Congress, and already extensive extracts from its pages are being reprinted in the agricultural papers of English-speaking countries. America's farmers have some encouragement to labour, when they see their leading statesmen looking down upon them as a body of men representing one half of the country's active industry, and upon whom the other half of its industry also indirectly depends. "There is, perhaps, no occupation in life which so greatly needs the fostering care of the Government as that of farming. There is no principle of political economy, no ques-

tion of public policy, no consideration of statistical facts, no new development of scientific knowledge, which does not come home to be measured in its influence upon the results of the farm."

Some of the statistical results of this report have a direct interest to our farmers and merchants. Indian Corn is the most extensively cultivated and most valuable crop of the United States, occupying 38 millions of acres, and yielding 1094 millions of bushels, the value of which is 602 millions of dollars. Next comes Hay, 24½ millions of tons, worth 339 millions of dollars. Cotton, 4½ millions of bales, value 286 millions of dollars. Wheat, 236 millions of bushels, value, 246 millions of dollars. Oats, 247 millions of bushels, worth 107 millions of dollars. Potatoes, 115 millions of bushels, value 32½ millions of dollars. Tobacco, 250½ millions of pounds, value 27 millions of dollars. Less important crops than any of these, are Barley, Rye, and Buckwheat.

The average yield of Indian Corn is

28 bushels to the acre, of Wheat 12, Rye 13, Oats 28, Barley 24, Buckwheat 18, Potatoes 86½, Tobacco 757 lbs., Hay 1½ tons, Cotton 236 lbs.

The average value of Tobacco per acre is more than that of any other crop, viz., \$81, Potatoes \$62, Cotton \$33, Barley \$20, Hay \$17, Indian Corn \$15.50, Buckwheat \$14, Wheat \$13, Oats \$12, Rye \$11. These averages are for the whole Union, and will suggest to every farmer a comparison with his own results.

Let us now pick out a few facts indicating the effects of climate and systems of culture in the different States. The highest average yield of Indian Corn is in Vermont, Indiana and Ohio, 39 bushels per acre, and the lowest in South Carolina, 9 bushels. Our neighbours in Maine and New Hampshire produce 33 and 36½ bushels respectively, Massachusetts 33, New York State 34. In the Western States, the averages are about the same; but in the South there is a marked decrease. Florida 11 bushels, Alabama 17, Louisiana 22, Georgia 19½,

North Carolina 14½, South Carolina 9. The remarkable fact is, that "wet weather" accounts for this in the Carolinas. There was drought in Eastern Massachusetts; the valleys of Virginia were "overwhelmed by floods," and in the Missouri valley "excessive rains," in some States "drought."

The highest average acreage of Wheat is in "The Territories," 26 bushels, Nevada 24, Oregon and California 19, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut between 17 and 18, Vermont nearly 17, New Hampshire, Maine, Minnesota and Kansas 15, Arkansas 11, Maryland, Virginia, Missouri and Louisiana 9, Georgia and the Carolinas 8.

Oregon yields the heaviest average of Oats, viz., 36 bushels, California comes next, 35½, Michigan a fraction less, Vermont next in order of all the States, close upon which follow Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, which are all above 30, and New Hampshire follows them within a fraction of that quantity. Maine and Wisconsin 27½. But in the sunny South, the falling off is lamentable: Georgia 14½ bushels of oats to the acre, and South Carolina less than 10 bushels.

The greatest average yield of Potatoes is in California, 148 bushels per acre, the Territories 145, Vermont 140, Texas 128, Maine 125, Arkansas 109, Kansas 106, Missouri 103. Every other State in the Union yields less than 100 bushels per acre, Indiana giving no more than 45. Of the States not named, and under 100 bushels, the northern ones are most productive.

The highest average yield of Tobacco is in Massachusetts, 1,320 lbs. per acre, Connecticut next 1,250. The yield in Virginia is 739 lbs. The smallest yield is in North Carolina, 586 lbs.

A letter has been published in the *Morning Chronicle*, by a gentleman in Cornwallis who writes under the plume of "Agricola," containing animadversions upon an article published in this Journal. It appears to be necessary for us to correct some of the erroneous statements made, so far as they deal with matters of fact. As to *opinions* on the Act of last session, and circumstances connected therewith, we have not offered any, and feel that our sole duty is to assist in carrying out the Act of the Legislature. If "Agricola" will again read

our article and compare it with his own letter, he will see that, in his anxiety to make out a case, he has attributed to us a large amount of statement and expression of sentiment that has never appeared in our columns. He must know that the two courses pointed out by him as the legitimate ones to be followed by the Board were neither of them possible. The Board was abolished on 4th April, 1871, and was not authorised again to act till 24th October. In the interim the members of the Board had no more power to act than Agricola himself; and, on this account, the Government naturally enough, declined to advance money for importations; it was only after long consideration, and after the Government were assured that the new Act would remain inoperative so long as there was no organization to carry it out, that it was determined to revive the old Board, for the purpose of organising a new one. It is due to the author of the Act to state that its legal construction is very different from what he intended.

We repeat that, under the law that has been in force since 18th April, 1865, the appointments to the Board have been entirely in the hands of the officers of the various Agricultural Societies, and that, while the changes made have not been very numerous, this did not result from any practical difficulty in the officers of Societies recording their votes, or nominating new men. A few three cent stamps would enable any Secretary of a society to obtain the views of all the other societies in the District, and whatever they agreed upon must of necessity be adopted by the Board, and always was so adopted. Changes were thus made from time to time in several districts,—old members were voted out and new ones voted in, notwithstanding the statement of "Agricola," that "the old member must go in." In those Districts where no change took place, it is reasonable to suppose that this resulted from the perfect confidence reposed in the sitting members. This much may be said, that we have never heard it asserted that the members of the Board spared either time or labour to discharge faithfully the duties imposed upon them. It is a mistake to say, as Agricola does say, and in *italics* too, that the "*majorities of the Societies* must be agreed on one and the same man." If even two Societies voted for one man, and eight others voted all for separate men, these two would carry their member.

We now come to the statement: "The Act of 1871 is rather a side step, and not straight to the front. The choice or nomination of members for the Board is still a complicate and uncertain matter for the Societies, when it might be as simple as A B C." This statement, made by himself, shows in a striking light how

unjustifiable is the tenor of Agricola's letter; but, as we do not wish to discuss the merits of the new Act, it is not for us to express any coincidence with or difference from him. The only object of our article was to explain the position into which affairs had been temporarily thrown during the past season, and to show that the Board were not only free from all blame in regard thereto, but, on the contrary, acted in a straight forward and earnest manner, with a single eye to the interests of our Agricultural Societies.

The last proposal is to enact that each Society shall be entitled to elect one of its members to represent the Society at the Board. That would give a Board of about 56 members,—an Agricultural Parliament, in fact, as large as the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council combined. Lest the duties devolving upon this body be too heavy, they are not to be troubled with the care of money, for, according to Agricola's scheme, the Government are to appoint other officers to be directly responsible to the Government for the expenditure of the Agricultural Grant. Then, each Society is to pay the travelling expenses of its member attending meetings of the Board at Halifax. "The Societies," Agricola says, "have a right to this." Would they not rather look upon it as a grievous wrong? We do hope when any farther change is made upon the Agricultural Act that the Board will be constituted with a direct relation to the work which it is designed to accomplish, and not sacrificed in a vain attempt to give it a vague and false popularity.

#### MEETING OF PICTOU REPRESENTATIVES.

At a meeting of Representatives from the different Agricultural Societies in the County of Pictou, held in New Glasgow, this 8th day of December, 1871, 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:—

River John—  
Pictou—David Matheson.  
Gairloch—Kenneth Ross.  
Hopewell—Robert McNaughton.  
Merrigomish—William C. Oldings.  
Maxwellton—David Huggan.

Robert McNaughton, Esq., was appointed Chairman, and David Matheson, Esq., Secretary of the meeting.

Read a letter from Mr. Nelson Sutherland, late President of River John Agricultural Society, who was appointed at the annual meeting of their Society to attend this meeting as their representative, but owing to circumstances therein fully referred to, was unable to fulfil the appointment.

It was moved by William C. Olding, and seconded by David Huggan, and unanimously resolved, that David Matheson be elected by this meeting to represent this County at the Central Board of Agriculture.

ROBERT McNAUGHTON, Chairman.  
DAVID MATHESON, Secretary.

**KEMPT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

**CONSTITUTION.**

Art. 1st. This Society shall be called the Kempt Agricultural Society.

2nd. This Society shall consist of such persons as are engaged in the cultivation of the soil wholly or in part for a livelihood, who shall become members by subscribing and paying into the funds of this Society annually no less than one dollar.

3rd. The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and five other members for Directors.

4th. There shall be held in each year four meetings of the Society, viz., on the first Tuesdays in March, June, September, and annually on the first Tuesday in December, of which at least six day' notice shall be given by advertisement. Special meetings may be called by the Secretary at the instance of the President, or at the written request of five members.

5th. The President shall act as Chairman at all the meetings of the Society, call special meetings when he may deem necessary, with all other duties customarily assigned to such office.

6th. The Vice President shall assist the President, and in his absence act in his place.

7th. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the Society's meetings, and an account of the receipts and disbursements, carry on the correspondence of the Society, and perform such other duties as may be required in furtherance of the objects of the Society.

8th. The Treasurer shall keep the funds of the Society and disburse on the order of the President and Secretary, and report to the Society at the annual meeting in December.

9th. The officers and Directors shall take charge of and keep for the benefit of the Society all horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, plants, seeds, &c., and all articles that may belong to the Society by purchase or otherwise, and shall make such application of the said property as a majority of the Society at any regular meeting or special meeting may determine, and report at the annual meeting in December the proceedings of the Society during the year, with such remarks upon the agriculture of the district as they may be able to offer, and to recommend any measures they may deem expedient to advance the interests and objects of the Society.

10th. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular or quarterly meeting of the Society.

**BYE-LAWS.**

Article 1st. The objects of this Society shall be to promote the introduction of improved stock, seeds, roots and implements, methods of culture, drainage, orchard cultivation, and domestic manufactures, to hold shows and exhibitions, and to diffuse information concerning Agriculture and Horticulture.

2nd. The subscription of members, together with the Legislative Grant allotted the Society, shall be a general fund for the furtherance of the objects of the Society.

3rd. Any member or number of members may be allowed the benefit of that portion of funds of the Society to which they would be entitled by an equitable division of the same for any purpose not contrary to the provisions of the act for the encouragement of agriculture.

4th. Nine members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any legal meeting of the Society.

WM. E. FREEMAN, Sec'y.

**Reports of Agri. Societies.**

**RIVER JOHN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

RIVER JOHN, Dec. 15th, 1871.

In compliance with the Act for the improvement of Agriculture, we forward a brief Report. The annual meeting of the River John Agricultural Society met at time appointed, and constituted by the President taking the chair. The office-bearers submitted a report of proceedings during the year. Treasurer submitted his report, which was received and adopted, viz. :—

To cash paid for County Exhibition.....	\$50 00
By cash, Members' dues.....	42 00
Incidental expenses.....	3 00

The following were duly elected for the current year:—*President*, Jas. Stramberg; *Vice Pres.*, John McKenzie, Esq.; *Treas.*, John Holtaes; *Sec'y*, Robert Sutherland; *Directors*, Nelson Sutherland, Thomas Mitchell, Jas. Longill, A. Chisholm, Jas. Sutherland.

ROBT. SUTHERLAND, Sec'y.

**EGERTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

FISH POOLS, EAST RIVER, PICTOU, }  
December 5th, 1871. }

The annual meeting of the Egerton Agricultural Society was held, according to law, on Tuesday, the 5th of December; the President in the chair, when the following were elected officers for the ensuing year:—*President*, Robt. McNaugh-

ton, Hopewell; *Vice Pres.*, Roderick McKay, Foxbrook; *Secretary*, Isaac McNaughton, Hopewell; *Treas.*, Finlay Cameron, Fish Pools; *Directors*, John McKay, James McKay, Thomas Grant.

The minutes of last meeting being read and approved, the accounts being examined and found correct, the following resolutions were passed:—

That the President meet the delegates from the other Societies at New Glasgow, on Friday, the 18th December, to appoint a member to the Central Board.

That the meeting be adjourned to the 3rd Tuesday of January, 1872; and that the Secretary give notice of the meeting by posting up handbills.

We would respectfully direct the Central Board to the award of prizes published by the Secretaries of the Pictou Exhibition.

In regard to the state of crops,—hay good; wheat above an average; oats not so good as last year; root crop, on account of dry fall, not an average; fruit, especially stone fruit, almost a failure.

ROBERT McNAUGHTON, Pres.  
ISAAC McNAUGHTON, Sec'y.

HOPWELL, Dec. 19, 1871.

**MAXWELTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

The work of the year, though not of a very important nature so far as the expenditure of funds and the introduction of stock and seeds is concerned, was still to your committee, in consequence of the difficulty and in some cases the disappointment attending the procuring of improved stock, &c., one of no ordinary trouble.

Early in the year one pair of White Chester pigs, from stock imported by the Central Board last year, were purchased and sold to members under restrictions, and which now promise fairly.

After considerable delay and disappointment, your committee succeeded in obtaining one bushel "surprise" oats and half a bushel "excelsior," from which a very satisfactory yield has been obtained, fully demonstrating their superiority over the old varieties. These oats remain in the hands of the committee to be distributed to members before seed time.

After considerable time had been spent and trouble involved in negotiating for a bull, a superior grade animal was obtained, from stock imported by the Board of Agriculture, which has given great satisfaction in the section of the Society in which he is located; and the demand for another bull of superior breed to supply the requirements of other sections of the Society is much felt, and should be met early in the ensuing season.

A quantity of Northern Hill clover seed was purchased for the benefit of

members, hoping thereby to excite a disposition to cultivate improved grasses.

A financial statement is appended to this report, which we trust you will find correct.

The above is a simple statement of the work of your committee for the year just closing, and on reference to the accounts you will find that the Society is free from debt, so that all our subscriptions for the ensuing year, and the grant, will be at our disposal, so that there remains no reason why, during the ensuing year, the Society may not be instrumental in adding to the already very perceptible improvement resulting from past work of the Society.

The following are the office-bearers for the year viz:—*Pres.*, John D. Murray; *Vice do.*, David Huggan; *Sec'y and Treas.*, Jas. W. Patten; *Directors*, John W. Smith, John McDonald, John McLean, Joseph McDonald, John Robertson, Walter Patterson.

#### SABLE RIVER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, SHELburne CO.

Names of officers:—*Pres.*, William Dunlop, Jr.; *Sec'y.*, Ebenezer W. Harrington; *Treas.*, William Chivers; *Directors*, John Harlow, Enos E. Freeman, Freeman G. Dunlop; William E. Harrington; Stephen S. Harrington.

Alexander Harlow, Representative.

#### THE WINDSOR AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WINDSOR, Dec. 15, 1871.

I beg to submit the following report of the proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Windsor Agricultural Society, held at Windsor, on Tuesday the 5th of October.

The following officers were elected:—*Pres.*, Isaiah Dimock; *Vice do.*, Robert Brown; *Sec'y.*, Alfred C. Thomas; *Treas.*, Thomas Dill; *Directors*, John Taylor, Wm. Palmer, J. A. Shaw, David Smith, M. G. Allison.

Hon. R. A. McHefey was elected to represent the Windsor Society, to decide the representation at the Central Board of Agriculture, for the County of Hants.

The report of the Secretary was read and accepted. (Report annexed).

The rest of the proceedings were simply confined to arrangements for keeping imported stock.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT.

I cannot close my report without expressing my regret at the general want of interest in the affairs of the Society. A great deal of time was lost before a sufficient number could be collected to carry on the necessary business of the meeting from among the members residing in the town. Very few put in an ap-

pearance, although they usually take a fair share of the profits.

It has been the custom of the Society to dine together after the business has been transacted—a custom almost universal in England. Sometimes our tables are unusually large, at others rather small, but during the number of years the Secretary has been connected with the Society, he has never seen so very great a falling off in the number as this year. Whether this is caused by a depression in agriculture generally or an indifference to the welfare of the Society I cannot tell, but I would forwarn those who really take an interest in its welfare that another such meeting will about give it its death blow. It was a matter of regret to those present that Mr. Salter, the proprietor of the "Clifton," should be put to so large an expense in getting up a dinner; for although an additional expense is incurred by those who attend, still they cannot give adequate compensation for his time and trouble.

The officers of the Windsor Agricultural Society beg to submit the following report:—

The accounts submitted show a total number of 42 members, paying 84 subscriptions. On account of the increase of Societies the Government grant will be somewhat diminished for this year, No Government stock has been purchased by the Society, as it could not be procured—the Government importing nothing but pigs, one of which came to Windsor through private speculation. The Annual Fair of the Society took place on the new ground, on the Fort Hill; the entrances were not large, and the Society cannot congratulate themselves on many marked improvements. The Directors strictly adhered to the regulations adopted two years ago—that everything should be classified and exhibited in order, and have no reason to be dissatisfied at the result. Some of the vegetables raised in the gardens near Windsor were worthy of prizes at any exhibition. The crops for the past year seem to be about what were anticipated—the hay crop light as a rule; potatoes promised well in the spring, but turned out a poor crop; grain appears to be a fair average. More wheat has been sown than the Secretary was aware of when he made his previous report to Dr. Lawson, but with what success cannot as yet be ascertained. The Society hope that the reorganization of the Central Board may lead to good results, but unless the local societies make more effort to increase their numbers and funds and field of labor, they must inevitably be left behind in the great race of agricultural progress that is now taking place over the world. It is greatly to be regretted that the farmers of this district are so isolated, and have no general means of com-

munication one with another, as is to be found in other countries, through the means of clubs, &c.

ALFRED C. THOMAS, Sec'y.

#### PARADISE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

PARADISE, 11th Dec., 1871.

In submitting this Annual Report of the Paradise Agricultural Society, I beg to say, the Society has held no Exhibition the past year, as the funds were all used in the purchase of Stock.

The Society imported from the State of Maine one Bull—one year old, Ayrshire; also one three year old heifer, Ayrshire; they purchased also one Durham Bull, two years old, from Joseph Starratt, Esq., King's County,

In reference to the crops, hay was abundant; apples an average crop, turnips light; grain of all sort an average.

The above Society held its annual meeting on the 5th Dec., 1871, according to law.

The President in the chair. After receiving the reports of officers and adopting the same, a short time being spent in the discussion of matters in connection with the Society, they proceeded to elect their officers for the ensuing year, viz:—*President*, A. Longley; *Vice Pres.*, Manning Brown; *Sec'y.*, W. H. Balcom; *Treas.*, J. A. Leonard; *Directors*, W. R. Dodge, Simon Daniels, Wm L. Leonard, H. H. Morse, and Robert Marshall.

A. Longley, Esq., was elected a representative to meet with representatives of other societies of County, for the purpose of electing a representative to the Central Board.

WM. H. BALCOM, Sec'y, P. A. S.

#### AMHERST AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Amherst Agricultural Society was held in the Hall on last Tuesday. There was a larger attendance than at the meeting of a year ago.

The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year, viz:—*T. R. Black, Pres.*; *Torry Bent, Vice Pres.*; *Chas. H. Bent, Treas.*; *Hiram Black, Sec'y.* Messrs. James M. Layton, Jas. E. Page, Thompson Coates, Howard Smith, and Ansley Black, *Directors.*

The meeting requested the Board to expend the funds of the Society in the improvement of stock, etc., rather than in an exhibition.

The Society elected Hiram Black to represent the Society at the meeting of the representatives to select a member of the Central Board for the County in accordance with the Amended Act relating to Agriculture.

The weather the past few weeks de-

serves something more than a passing notice, as the intense cold so early in the season is quite unprecedented. In the West, the frost and great depth of snow have caused several deaths and much suffering.

Great injury has been done to shipping, and many persons have found a watery grave.

A check has been given to commerce by the sudden closing of many ports and canals, and altogether, the early intense frost has made this a remarkable season.—*Amherst Gazette.*

#### ST. ANN'S AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SOUTH GUT, 11th Dec., 1871.

Dear Sir,—The Annual meeting of the St. Ann's Agricultural Society was held on Tuesday, the 5th inst., in terms of the Act. The President, Murdoch McKenzie, Esq., having resigned, Luther McLeod, Esq., was unanimously elected in his place. All the other officers were continued in office for the ensuing year.

Since last report, the Society has expended the sum of \$125 in purchasing seeds, fanning mills and other implements; also, the wintering of the Bull, "Sir George," and his attendance in summer, cost a further sum of \$72.99, leaving only a balance of \$17.41 in the hands of the Treasurer. The Bull being such a drain upon the funds of the Society, it was considered prudent to sell him to one of the members, and the Society to pay for his services.

Respecting the crops, the result is now very generally known. The hay crop, though unusually heavy, the season being unfavourable, great quantities have been housed without being in the best condition. Oats and barley will favourably compare with other years. Wheat, though at first very promising, excepting in very rare instances, is below average. Potatoes in some localities a fair average, but in other localities a complete failure,—just as the blight had been late or early in taking them.

JOHN MORRISON, Sec'y.

#### PARRSBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

##### THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

The last Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday, the 6th December, 1870. The previous year's Report was then read and approved of. All the officers were re-elected to serve in 1871. A letter was read from Wells Cole, stating that he had withdrawn from the Society. The Hon. Alexander McFarlane was re-nominated to serve as a member of the Central Board of Agriculture.

The Committee met at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday, the 4th April, 1871. It was then resolved that the principal officers procure, as soon as practicable, a Potato Digger from Canada, the United States, or elsewhere, for the use of the Society, and to serve as a model. No answer has as yet been received to letters on the subject to parties in Ontario or Boston. It was resolved that a donation of ten shillings be paid Alexander Lewis for a covered shed for saving manure under, constructed by him in 1870; and that a bounty of five shillings be paid Thomas Smith, and a bounty of two shillings and six pence be paid Henry Harrison, for oatmeal made by them from oats raised by them in 1870. It was also resolved that bounties be paid on the first Tuesday of November next on wheat, Swedish turnips, and hayseed, raised this year, and on compost made this year. Bounty on wheat, 5s. for ten bushels; 2s. 5d. for five bushels. On Swedish turnips, 5s. for one hundred bushels, and 2s. 6d. for fifty bushels. On compost, 5s. for sixty loads, and 2s. 6d. for thirty loads, (each load to contain 20 bushels), on hayseed, 2s. 6d. for one bushel, and 1s. 3d. for half a bushel.

The Committee met at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday, the 7th of November, 1871, when bounties were paid on crops, due 1st November, 1870 omitted, to the amount of three pounds seven shillings and sixpence. Bounties were paid on wheat raised in 1871—£6 12s 6d. On rye raised in 1871—£1 7s. 6d. On Swedish turnips raised in 1871—\$2 15s. On compost made in 1871—£16 15s. On hayseed raised and saved in 1871—£7. On alder or swampy low land cleared and fitted to bear English hay in 1871—£1 5, to the amount of £35 15s. It was resolved that Daniel York be paid seven shillings and sixpence for the use of a room to hold meetings of the Society and officers in, in 1871; and that the Secretary be paid one pound two shillings and sixpence for his services and stationery used by him in 1871.

Throughout the year the Treasurer has received £32 4s. from members—£29 6s. 9d. as subscriptions due for 1871, and £2 17s. 3d. subscriptions due for the years previous to 1871. He also received £22 from the Central Board of Agriculture, assigned to the Society out of the Provincial money voted for Agricultural Societies in Nova Scotia, for the year 1870. He also received sixteen shillings for *Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia*, for 1871, sold to member at first cost. These sums, with the balance in hand from last year, of £8 12s. 2½d, make the sum of the funds for the year to be £63 18s. 2½d. Out of this, payments were made as before stated, on wheat, rye,

Swedish turnips and hayseed raised in 1871, on compost made in 1871, on low land cleared and fitted to bear English hay in 1871, to the amount of £35 15s; *Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia*, for 1870, \$2 12s 6d: donation for a covered shed made in 1870, to save manure under, ten shillings; bounties on oatmeal made from oats raised in 1870, seven shillings and sixpence; bounties on crops, compost, and low land cleared for hay, due to members 1st January, 1870, omitted, £3 7s. 6d. postages, one shilling room to hold meetings of Society and officers in through the year, seven shillings and sixpence; services of Secretary, and stationery used by him in 1871, one pound two shillings and sixpence; leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands, at the close of the business for this year, of £19 14s. 8½.

Out of 151 in 1870, one withdrew, one removed and one died. Seven having joined the Society in 1871, 155 are liable to pay five shillings each, in 1871. From these £32 4s. was received, £2 17s. 3d. of which was for arrearages due the Society for years previous to 1871. The arrearages due for the year 1871 are £9 8s. 3d.

Twenty-two numbers of the *Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia* have been received and read in the different sections of the Society through the year. Each of the eleven officers receives a number gratis.

Our usual Provincial Grant for 1871 has not been received.

Our hay crop this year was most abundant; the largest perhaps ever taken off the ground in this section of Cumberland County. The land where it was cut is chiefly upland, and it may be safely said that this year's crop is one quarter more than usual. There was a great deal of difficulty in getting it made, owing to the showery weather that prevailed throughout the harvest season. The large marsh at Advocate Harbour, where three hundred or more tons of hay are cut annually, has nearly recovered from the effects of the Saxby Storm of 1869, which rendered it barren last year. The old dyke, which was then broken, has been replaced by a defence against the sea, of piles touching each other, driven down by machinery. Potatoes were a light crop. They came up well, and grew well; but were attacked early by the blight, and many were found to be diseased when dug. In most places they were only partly grown; they are only about one quarter of the usual crop, and their quality not so good as common. Turnips, where cultivated, succeeded well. Apples were a light crop. All the small fruits growing well and were plentiful, especially cranberries and blueberries.

The prices of farm produce in Parrs-

borough, this autumn, are nearly as follows, viz:—Hay, 50s. per ton; fresh beef, 3½d. per lb.; fresh pork, 3½d. per lb.; butter, 1s. per lb.; potatoes, 2s. 6d. per bush.; turnips, 2s. per bush.; wheat, 8s. per bush.; barley, 4s. per bush.; gray or old buckwheat, 4s. per bush.; ground buckwheat, 3s. per bush.; peas, 8s. per bush.; beans, 8s. per bush.; geese, 3s. each; turkeys, 6d. per lb.; chickens, 1s. 3d. per pair; ducks, 2s. per pair; cows, £5 each; working oxen, £20 per pair; lambs, 10s. each; old ewes, 15s. each; twilled homespun cloth for trousers, all wool, 4s. per yard; twilled homespun cloth, cotton and wool, for trousers, 3s. per yard; flannel, white cotton and wool, plain, 2s. 6d. per yard; flannel, twilled, white cotton and wool, for blankets, 4s. per yard; homespun, colored, plain, cotton and wool, for women's frocks and men's working jackets, 3s. per yard; raw hides 3½d. per lb.; wool, 1s. 6d. per lb.; eggs, 9d. per dozen; mutton, lamb and veal 3½d. per lb.; sole leather, 1s. 6d. per lb.; upper leather, 15s. per side; calfskin, tanned, 4s. per lb.; sheepskins, with wool on, 4s. each; sheepskins, tanned, 2s. each; lambskins, tanned, 1s. each; hay seed, 20s. per bush.; woolen yarn, 1s. 3d. per skein of twelve knots; socks, 1s. 6d. per pair; mittens, 2s. per pair, single mittens, 1s. per pair; buckwheat meal 2s. per lb.; oatmeal 2½d. per lb.

By order of the Committee.

JOHN T. SMITH, Sec'y.

## NORTH SYDNEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

DECEMBER 6th, 1871.

The North Sydney Agricultural Society held their annual meeting in the Temperance Hall, North Sydney, yesterday, Dec. 5th., when the following officers were appointed for the ensuing year: *Pres.*, W. H. Moore, Esq.; *Vice-Pres.*, James M. Munn; *Treas.*, J. B. Moore, Sec'y., A. G. Musgrave; *Directors*, W. C. Moffatt, G. B. Moffatt, J. E. Jeans, G. S. Munn, C. P. Moffatt.

Mr. John Ross, M. P., was elected to represent us at the meetings of the Central Board.

The Directors reported that they had examined the books of Treasurer and Secretary, and find receipts and disbursements as follows:

### Cash Received.

From fifty-six members.....\$56.00  
Received balance due old Society..... 6.17  
Received from sale of Clover Seed..... 17.23

### Expenses.

Paid for Books.....\$0.55  
Paid for Clover Seed.....17.00  
Balance in Treasurer's hand.....\$61.96

The Directors recommended that the funds of the Society should be appropriated to the improvement of live stock and the importation of seeds.

It was then resolved on motion, that the Directors procure two or three pairs of White Chester Pigs, and one barrel of Clover Seed.

The following is now the correct list of members:—William Proctor, John Voaght, John Musgrave, C. P. Moffatt, George B. Moffatt, D. Lawlor, L. Robertson, G. S. Munn, James Moffatt, Peter Jackson, T. E. Jeans, D. McLarty, Robert Rice, D. Johnston, J. B. Moore, J. M. Munn, Samuel Jackson, A. G. Musgrave, W. H. Moore, John Scott Musgrave, John J. Moore, Bart'w. Musgrave, John Nisbet, J. W. Rose, O. H. Chipman, John Mullins, John Ross, Alex. McKay, John Morgan, J. L. Ingraham, J. D. Meloney, John Hegarty, C. A. Robertson, P. B. Moffatt, W. C. Moffatt, L. Holland, Thos. Waynor, N. A. Dobson, S. L. Purvis, Saml. Peters, T. D. Archibald, B. C. Evans, Alex. Moore, Thos. La Source, W. Blomby, T. A. Moffatt, Murdo McLean, Alex. Logan, J. W. Thompson, Thos. McLellan, Thos. Moffatt, W. J. Peppit, Angus McLeod, John Barrington.

In reference to the crops in this township we would say that hay is above an average, but sustained some damage by wet weather. Wheat very sparingly sown, but a failure where cultivated. Oats a good crop and abundant in straw. Barley a fair crop, but not raised to any extent. Potatoes not more than half a crop, and they of the poorest quality; the blight having taken them so early in the season. Turnips and carrots a good crop where cultivated, but not raised to the extent they should be. Cabbage a good crop, and more attention given to their cultivation than formerly.

W. H. MOORE, Pres.

A. G. MUSGRAVE, Sec'y.

## MIDDLE RIVER OF VICTORIA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Directors feel grateful to the kind Providence for the unlimited privileges conferred on this Society during the year now about being closed, and before proceeding further with this Report, beg to return their sincere thanks to the Honble the Board of Agriculture for the liberal bounty allowed this Society for the past year, which has been the means of adding more to their numerical strength. The Pigs purchased by this Society from the importations made by the Board of Agriculture last year promise to do well, particularly the White Chester Boars—those being crossed with the Berkshire make an excellent improvement. The animals raised from the Alderney Bull, purchased by this Society at the Halifax Exhibition in 1868, 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 same can be said of the stock of sheep produced by the Ram purchased at the same time, so that in this locality cattle, sheep and pigs have undergone a great change for the better. The same can be reported of the Seeds purchased last year—particularly the "Surprise Oats," Red and Alsyo Clover. The Norway Oats this season did not do as well as last year. This may be attributable to the wet season—the grain yielding such quantity of straw, lodged early, thereby hindering its maturity. Wheat has been so sparingly sowed that not much can be said, but what was put in the ground did remarkably well. The Barley, having been considerably injured by rust, did not yield as well as last year. Taking the whole grain crop, compared with the previous year, the result will be one-fifth less. The Potatoes being affected by the blight early in August have in many instances become a total failure—so that crop may be reckoned at four to one planted. This Society having last spring imported some of the "Garnet Chilies," they yielded remarkably well—in most cases yielded twenty-one returns. The Hay crop has done very well, about double the average of last year, so that in comparing the average yield of hay over last year's growth, this locality has no reason for complaining.

Before closing this brief Report your directors beg leave to state that the affairs of this Society are in a very satisfactory state and every year progressively improving, and although the partial failure in the potato and grain crops somewhat dampened the prospects of the farmers, still the excess in the hay crop will make up for the deficiency.

The office-bearers for the ensuing year are as follows: *Pres.*, John McDonald; *Vice do.*, S. C. Campbell; *Treas.*, Kenneth McDonald; *Sec'y.*, John McLennan; *Directors*, Edward McLeod, John McDonald, D. McLean, Donald McQuain and Wm. Cain.

C. J. Campbell, Esq., M. P. P., nominated as our representative at the Central Board of Agriculture.

JOHN MCLENNAN, Sec'y.

MIDDLE RIVER, Dec. 5, 1871.

## NORTH QUEEN'S AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Dear Sir,—According to notice, the North Queen's Agricultural Society met on the first Tuesday of December, 1871. After closing the business of the past year, a subscription list was opened for the ensuing year, from whose numbers the following officers were elected, viz:—*President*, Charles Cushing; *Sec'y.*, B. L. Telfer; *Treas.*, Milton F. Douglas.

CHARLES CUSHING, Pres.

B. L. TELFER, Secretary.

DARTMOUTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

5th DECEMBER, 1871.

At a regular meeting of the members of the above society, held this evening at the residence of Peter Farquarson, Esq., present:—M. Tobin, Pres., A. Kuhn, Vice-Pres., J. Short, Sec'y., P. Farquarson, Tres., J. Ross, A. Hutchinson, S. Rutherford, J. Lamont, A. Tobin, John Little, Jno Huskins, E. Crosse, John Beck, Jas. Arnold, R. T. Isenor, A. Tulloch, R. Little and A. Rutherford.

Minutes of 7th and 12th of April were read and confirmed.

Read Circular from Board of Agriculture, dated 24th of October, 1871, relative to an act passed during the last session of the Provincial Legislature, requiring each Agricultural Society to elect a representative at the Central Board.

Moved by A. Kuhn, and seconded by P. Farquarson, that M. Tobin, Esq., be nominated by this society, in accordance with the act. Passed unanimously.

Moved and seconded that twenty dollars be paid the Secretary, as compensation for his services. Passed unanimously.

At auction, it was moved and seconded that Jas. Rutherford take charge of the Bull for the next 4 months, at the rate of \$7.40 per month, to expire on the 16th April. Passed unanimously—with the understanding that members should have the services of the Bull for fifty cents, and non-members one dollar each.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Pres., M. Tobin; Vice-Pres., A. Kuhn; Sec'y., T. Short; Tres., P. Farquarson; Directors, D. Donovan, A. Giles, J. Hoskins and E. Crosse.

The following list of prizes was announced:—

<i>Wheat.</i>	
1st Prize—J. Ross, 60 lbs per bush.,	.....\$2.50
2nd " —J. Hoskins, 59½ " " "	..... 1.50
<i>Black Oats.</i>	
1st Prize—R. Little, Senr., 41 lbs per bush.,	\$1.50
2nd " —J. Ross, 39 " " "	1.00
<i>White Oats.</i>	
1st Prize—J. Hoskins, 41½ lbs per bush.,	..\$1.50.
2nd " —A. Tulloch, 38½ " " "	.. 1.00.
<i>Barley.</i>	
1st Prize—A. Kuhn, 53½ lbs per bush.,	...\$2.50
2nd " —J. Little, 52½ " " "	... 1.50
<i>Parsnips.</i>	
1st Prize—A. Kuhn, 13½ lbs per doz.,	.....\$1.00
2nd " —J. Little, 10½ " " "	..... 0.75
<i>Beets.</i>	
1st Prize—J. Ross, 40½ lbs per doz.,	.....\$1.00
2nd " —A. Kuhn 31 " " "	..... 0.75
<i>Carrots, (late).</i>	
1st Prize—H. Giles, 15½ lbs per doz.,	.....\$1.00
2nd " —R. Little, 14 " " "	..... 0.75
<i>Carrots, (early).</i>	
1st Prize—A. Kuhn, 11½ lbs per doz.,	.....\$1.00
2nd " —R. Little, 7½ " " "	..... 0.75

<i>Cabbage.</i>	
1st Prize—E. Crosse, 185½ lbs per doz.,	...\$1.00
2nd " —R. Little, 134½ " " "	.... 0.75
<i>Butter.</i>	
1st Prize—A. Rutherford, 10 lbs.,	.....\$2.50
2nd " —A. Tulloch " " "	..... 1.50
<i>Turnips, (seed).</i>	
1st Prize—A. Kuhn.....	.....\$2.00
<i>Turnips.</i>	
1st Prize—P. Farquarson, 152 lbs per ¼ rod.	\$2.50
2nd " —H. Giles, 146 " " "	2.00
3rd " —A. Tulloch, 136 " " "	1.50
<i>M. Wurtzel.</i>	
1st Prize—A. Tulloch, 202 lbs per ¼ rod.,	..\$2.50
2nd " —D. Conovan, 193 " " "	... 1.50
<i>Potatoes.</i>	
1st Prize—E. Crosse, 119½ lbs per ¼ rod.,	..\$2.50
2nd " —J. Ross, 197½ " " "	... 2.00
3rd " —J. Little, 99 " " "	... 1.50
<i>Drainage.</i>	
E. Crosse, 20 rods.....	\$3.40
A. Tulloch, 22 rods.....	2.74
R. Little, Jr., 27 rods.....	4.59
<i>Ploughing Match.</i>	
1st Prize—J. Ross.....	\$9.00
2nd " —H. Giles.....	8.00
3rd " —J. Morcash.....	7.00
4th " —J. Rutherford.....	6.00
5th " —J. Arnold.....	5.00
6th " —A. Rutherford.....	8.00
7th " —J. Kuhn.....	2.00

Meeting then adjourned until 29th of March, 1872.

T. SHORT, Sec'y.

HALIFAX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

HALIFAX, 5th Dec., 1871.

This day the County of Halifax Agricultural Society held their Annual Meeting, in accordance with the Agricultural Act, in the Rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Among those present were William Duffus, Esq., W. C. Silver, Esq., W. Veith, Esq., J. J. Northup, Esq., Alex. Anderson, Esq., Andrew Downs, Esq., Thomas Leahy, Esq., J. M. Geldert, Esq., Alfred Saunders, Jr., Esq., W. A. McLeod, Esq., Colonel Milsom, Professor Lawson, and others.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, Henry Yeomans, Esq., was requested to take the chair.

The Secretary read a letter from the Hon. Sir William Young, President of the Society, expressing regret for unavoidable absence, in consequence of the opening of the Supreme Court to-day. However ill-judged the Act of last session might be accounted, Sir William stated that it was the duty of the Society to do what in them lay to carry it out, and suggested the appointment of one of the members to meet the representatives of the other Societies in the County in order to keep the organization up till the Legislature improved the present Act. It would never do to permit the results of the recent successful efforts to perish.

A letter was likewise read from Colonel Laurie, stating that the Quarter Sessions met at the same hour as the Society, which would prevent some members attending, but that he hoped to be present before close of the meeting.

A letter was also read from George Madill, Esq., Milford, offering suggestions as to the course to be pursued in reference to the special business of the Society, and expressing regret at the want of imported stock, either Ayrshire or Devon. It is a long time to wait till next Fall, after waiting a year already, and if effective steps are not taken in this regard, it will be impossible in his district to continue the subscriptions.

On motion of Mr. Silver, seconded by Mr. Anderson, Joseph J. Northup, Esq., was nominated the Society's representative to meet with the representatives of the Dartmouth and Upper and Lower Musquodoboit Societies for the purpose of nominating members for Halifax County to the Central Board of Agriculture, who would thereupon be appointed by the Governor in Council.

The Society then proceeded to the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year, when the following were appointed:—Pres., Hon. Sir William Young, Knight; Vice-Pres., Hon. Wm. A. Henry, Colonel Laurie, George Madill, Esq.; Tres., W. C. Silver, Esq., Sec'y., Professor Lawson; Directors, J. M. Geldert, Esq., Dr. Lewis, Alexander Anderson, Esq., William Duffus, Esq., Charles Hamilton, Esq., Joseph J. Northup, Esq., William Veith, Esq., Andrew Downs, Esq., Saml. Keys, Esq., Wm. Wararop, Esq., Isaac Logan, Esq., Thomas Keys, Esq., Wm. McKeen, Esq., Alfred Saunders, Esq.

The Treasurer then presented his accounts for the year, which were audited by Messrs. Northup and Anderson, found correct, and certified, the balance in hand being \$321.35, exclusive of Legislative grant for 1871, not yet drawn.

Mr. Northup exhibited samples of Hallett's Pedigree Barley, grown by Mr. Thomas of Windsor. It is the most productive barley that has ever been grown in the Province. Mr. Northup also showed a beautiful sample of the Western Prairie Wheat, raised by Mr. T. A. McDonald of Durham, county of Pictou, which effectually resists rust and weevil, is well adapted in every way to our climate, and produces an excellent quality of flour. The following particulars of this variety of wheat were some time ago furnished by Mr. McDonald to the *Morning Chronicle*:—"In 1868 I received from a friend one pint of Western Prairie Wheat, and have sown the increase of it each year since with very favourable results. In three years the increase of it counts up to the handsome figure of 65 bushels, an average yield of 16 to one each year. It is a very hardy kind of wheat as well as



being unusually productive. I have sown it alongside of other kinds of wheat grown in this province, and while they were destroyed in part by the weevil, and the straw rusted, beside a great many black heads, this was proof against them all. I sowed it in what we farmers call weevil time, on the 20th of May, 1869, and on the 22nd May, 1870, and had a yield of 12 and 14 bushels each year respectively, and this year I sowed one bushel, giving all the chance I could for the weevil, and just threshed 12 bushels off of the one sown. I am convinced by the trials I have given it that it will resist the attacks of the weevil better than any other variety of wheat, and also that it can be grown in any situation, such as intervals farms or low places. It resists the weevil or rust on account of its closeness of chaff, and a very heavy beard. Some of the crop of 1869 and 1861, far exceeded anything of the kind I have ever seen grown, many of the straws I measured were six feet long, clear and bright, and I had one and a half bushels to the stook. It weighed 65 pounds to the bushel, and makes, without exception, as good flour as any wheat.

"If the farmers of Nova Scotia wish to grow their own wheat, and save the constant drain of money from the Province for imported flour, they would do well to give this wheat a trial. I have been very particular in keeping the seed pure, and I think, for the present, it would be very wrong to grind it into flour. Call and see a sample of the wheat at Messrs. J. Northup & Sons, and examine for yourselves. Also, at Simon Fraser's Intercolonial Hotel, Truro."

**LOWER MUSQUODOBOIT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

MIDDLE MUSQUODOBOIT,  
December 8th, 1871.

The Lower Musquodoboit Agricultural Society held its annual meeting on the 5th day of December. The officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz:—*Pres.*, Francis Layton, Esq.; *Vice Pres.*, Thos. Bell; *Sec'y* and *Treas.*, Chas. N. Spratt. Five Directors were appointed, Charles H. Fuller, Andrew Cruikshanks, Joseph Ogilvie, John Cruikshanks and Jonathan Layton. Charles N. Spratt was elected to represent this Society at a meeting of representatives similarly appointed.

CHARLES N. SEROTT, *Sec'y.*

**MAHONE BAY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

The officers of the Mahone Bay Agricultural Society beg to submit the accounts for the past year, with balance on hand, thirty-four dollars and fifty-nine cents; also, the Report as follows:—They feel pleased to report a progress since

our last annual meeting, viz., in the purchase of a pair of White Chester Pigs, which Joseph Northup, Esq., was kind enough to purchase for our Society and for which the Society desires to return him thanks for his kind act in the trouble he has taken to send them to us, which we hope will prove a benefit to the Society in general. We are pleased to say that the Society has increased in numbers since the last annual meeting. This is also showing a sign of progress. The crops in some cases were better than last year—that is to say roots of various kinds, also cabbage. The grain was an average crop. Potatoes very good in quantity and quality. The hay crop was rather light.

Officers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, Benjamin Zwicker, Esq.; *Vice-Pres.*, Mr. Joseph Maden; *Tres.*, Mr. Jacob Ernst; *Sec'y.*, Mr. Henry Schnow; *Directors*, Messrs. E. B. Hyson, John Maden, Chas. Zwicker, David Vainat, Alexander Ham.

B. ZWICKER, President.  
HENRY SCHNOW, Sec'y.

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5 ".....	0	8	
6 ".....	0	8	
7 ".....	0	8	
8 ".....	0	8	
9 ".....	0	8	
10 ".....	0	8	
12 ".....	0	8	
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