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JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

PUBLISHED UNDER DIRECTION OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OF NOVA-SCOTIA.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY, 1866.

No. 11.

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REMARKS ON THE SEASON.

Halifax, 12th January, 1866.

The Secretaries of several Societies have been so dilatory in sending in their Annual Reports that the publication of the present number has been delayed beyond the accustomed time. Yet it is highly gratifying that so many satisfactory reports have been received. From the terms of these reports it is evident that the farmers of the Province are becoming more fully alive than heretofore to the importance of agricultural improvement, both as regards the culture of the soil and the raising of stock.

The winter promises so far to be a severe one, but at the same time suitable and profitable for work in the woods. Last season our most severe weather in Halifax county was immediately before Christmas, when the thermometer stood a few degrees below zero for two days. But this season the cold period has occurred during the first and second weeks of January. With the thermometer descended below zero on 5th Jan'y, descending on the following day from 6° to 15° below zero. On the morning of the 7th, it was still 13° below zero, rose in the afternoon to 10° stood during the whole of the following day at 8° below; on the morning of the 9th, had risen to 3 above zero, in the evening to 13°, morning of the 10th to 15° and on the evening of that day to 15° above zero. The long continuance of severe weather has proved destructive to potatoes and other roots in cellars, in many cases. The lakes are now coated with a thick pavement of ice, and the ice-crop is being actively reaped at Rocky Lake, where a new Ice House of great size is in course of erection. The cradle hills in the woods are smoothed over by the snow, and the lumbermen have entered with spirit upon their winter labours.

In England much is being said and done about the Rinderpest, which unfortunately still continues its ravages. The Royal Agricultural Society of England has resolved to hold no Exhibition of Cattle until 1867. The Smithfield Club Cattle Show just held, has been very successful, although some of the finest animals in England were prevented from being shown by rules of the club with reference to Rinderpest.

The Royal Horticultural Society held its International Show of Fruit and Vegetables from 9th to 16th December. It must be highly gratifying to our friends in Cornwallis and Annapolis to learn that in the Foreign Department of the Exhibition the Gold Medal of the Society offered for the best representative collection of Fruit and Vegetables from any of the Colonies, was awarded to the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia, for what is described in the Report as "a large and fine collection of Apples; and a few Pears, the latter, however, not in good condition. The apples are for the most part large and fine, though scarcely equal to those shown from the same Colony on former occasions. Besides many local varieties, Baldwin, Aesopus Spitzenberg, Northern Spy, Ribston Pippin, Blenheim Pippin, Emperor Alexander, Gloria Mundi, Rhode Island Greening, Gravenstein and Dutch Codlin are large and fine. We also noticed the old Golden Pippin, King apple, a fine-looking variety, red on the sunny-side; Black's Red; Blue Pearmain; Black Detroit, Pomme d'Api and Margaret Pippin."

A gold medal is likewise awarded to the Horticultural Society of Copenhagen for a collection of Danish apples, including many of the finest English sorts, together with some showy apples, such as Pigeon Rouge, Nonnefitty, a long-shaped variety mottled with red, Princess Alexandra, a new Danish apple, with a clear, yellow skin, &c.

NOTICE TO THE SECRETARIES AND OTHER OFFICERS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

All Societies desiring to participate in the government grant for 1866 will be required to send in to the Secretary of the Board, not later than 1st September 1866, a certificate of payment of the annual subscriptions for the year, duly certified by the oath of the Secretary of the Society, in terms of the Act.

Societies neglecting to comply, must necessarily be excluded from participation in the grant for the year.

ABSTRACT OF REPORTS, &c., OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES FOR THE PAST YEAR.

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.

EASTERN ANNAPOPLIS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

In presenting their report for the past year, the officers and directors of the Eastern Annapolis Agricultural Society have to regret the little which has been done, in comparison to what might have been done had larger means been placed at their disposal; but in this fine part of the county of Annapolis, where almost every resident is engaged in agricultural pursuits, and where it might reasonably be supposed that more or less interest would be shewn in its improvement, there has been found great difficulty in obtaining the requisite number of subscribers to entitle the society to their portion of the provincial grant for the present year. Let us hope that in future each individual member will use his utmost exertions among his friends and neighbors that we may yet have to boast of being, if not the best at least one of the best agricultural so-

cities in the province; and that the farms of its members may be examples of skillful farming, and their improved stock excite to emulation those who have hitherto thought but little of the advantages of agricultural societies. No better investment can possibly be made of the people's money than that part which is appropriated to form societies for the encouragement of agriculture, nor can a dollar a year be more profitably spent than investing it to the same purpose.

A desire has been expressed by the majority of members that the funds of the past year should be expended in the purchase of a Durham bull, but after every exertion being made it was found impossible to procure one; and as in the month of June an offer had been made to the society by Mr. Reid, of Fredericton, N.B., of a pure blood Cotswold ram, the officers and directors came to the resolution to purchase him notwithstanding the price asked, viz. \$125, thinking it better thus to appropriate the funds of the society than allow them to remain idle, and lose, perhaps, an animal so much needed for the improvement of the breed of sheep at present in this part of the county.

In September, the Hon. Charles Perley, of Woodstock, N. B., offered for sale to the society a Durham bull. Mr. Perley's well-known reputation of being one of the first farmers and breeders of stock in New Brunswick, induced your directors to negotiate with him, and ultimately to purchase the bull. He reached here on the 3rd Nov. and fully answered the description given of him by Mr. Perley. He is a very superior animal, and one which it is to be hoped will be found greatly to improve the stock of this part of the county generally, and more particularly that of the members of the society.

At the meeting of 13th March last, a visiting committee was appointed to report upon the farms of members, as to their culture, rotation of crops, management generally, arrangement of barns, yard, &c. The following is extracted from their report:—"While your committee are well aware of a very great improvement within the last few years in the character of farm buildings, with reference both to their comfort and convenience, as well as adding largely to the quantity and quality of manures; yet much is still required, as not sufficient importance is attached to this department of agriculture.

"Your committee have also much pleasure in observing the spirit manifested by your members generally in the improvement of stock of every description, selecting from the more approved breeds, and by bestowing a greater amount of care and attention upon their stock. The crops generally have been good, and estimated at 3110 bushels of oats, on 160 acres, black oats generally sown; 1060 bushels of barley, on 43 acres, the two-rowed preferred; rye, winter and spring, 375 bushels, on 30 acres; corn, 270 bushels, on 14 acres, crop generally diminished by late frosts; buckwheat, (not extensively cultivated) 280 bushels, on 19 acres; beans, 58 bushels on 4 acres; turnips, 3000 bushels, on 10 acres, (the green top preferred); potatoes, 7700 bushels, on 70 acres." The foregoing applies to farms of members only.

The principal varieties of potatoes cultivated are the Calicoes, Jackson White, Prince Albert, and the early Blue Nose. There has been very little of the old-fashioned rot among them, and they have all yielded fair average crops, although in some cases they have been small in size, owing to the exceeding dryness of the season. A few years ago the Dalmahoy potato was imported by this society, and has proved itself, to those who have planted them, one of the best potatoes in the neighbourhood. The Early Handsworth, imported at the same time—a dwarf potato not growing more than from 4 to 8 inches high—is found to be very early, at least a fortnight earlier than the Ash Leaf Kidney. Davis' Seedling, a red and particularly fine potato, was a year or two ago imported by a gentleman of this society, of which he speaks in the most favourable terms. The following description of it is given in the *Maine Farmer* of January, 1864:—"It is a large

roundish, smooth and reddish skinned potato, and its flesh is nearly white, only having a slight yellowish tinge. I have grown it in 1861-2-3, and find it very productive and hardy. It also grows well on all kinds of soil, and keeps perfectly fresh until late in the ensuing spring, and so forms a very desirable variety for home consumption and for late marketing. It has, for this reason, when sent to our northern city markets late in the season, often commanded more than double as much per bushel as any other potato. It is also an early ripening potato, as it ripens as early as most of our early potatoes, and equals most of them in excellence of quality,—and hence it is a popular new variety that bids fair to supplant most of our fine older, but less productive sorts, such as the Carter, Mercier, &c."

The following is a list of the officers and directors.—*Pres.*, Henry Ince; *Vice-Pres.*, Chas. Armstrong; *Treas.*, D. C. Landers; *Sec'y.*, G. V. Ince; *Directors*, B. H. Parker, Handly Fitch, Walter Welton, J. Clarke Neily and Jacob Neily.

Treasurer's Account, 1864-5.	
1864.	Do.
	Postage, Stationery, &c. \$3.45
1865.	
July 1.	Paid Mr. Reid for the ram <i>Great Guelph</i> , and expenses 129.76
Dec.	Hon. Charles Perley, for bull and expenses 99.81
	Printing Handbills, &c. 1.50
	<hr/>
Dec. 1.	Balance due society 13.22
	<hr/>
	\$247.74
	<hr/>
	<i>Cn.</i>
	Subscriptions for 1864 \$45.00
	Do. Do. 1865 42.00
	Provincial Grant, 1864 80.00
	Do. Do. 1865 80.00
	Cash from Mr. Ince 0.74
	<hr/>
	\$247.74

D. C. LANDERS,
Treasurer.
GEO. V. INCE,
Sec'y E.A.A.S.

Nictaux, Dec. 1, 1865.

BRIDGETOWN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Bridgetown, January 8th, 1865.

I will forward the Annual Report of Bridgetown Agricultural Society in a few days.

J. E. FELLOWS.

ANTIGONISH COUNTY.

ANTIGONISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Antigonish, Jan'y 9th, 1866.

At the annual meeting of the Antigonish Agricultural Society, the accompanying report together with an account of receipts and expenditures was submitted and adopted.

Total receipts \$321.98, expenditures \$460.30; balance in hand \$61.68.

At our first quarterly meeting held in March last, it was resolved to purchase at least one 2 year old bull and 2 yearlings. The Society having corresponded with parties in various parts of this Province and P. E. Island found it impossible to obtain the number required. Two yearling bulls were purchased in King's county, the one Durham and the other chiefly Ayrshire, every ram was taken to benefit each member of the society as long as possible; but this society covers so large an area it would seem necessary to have the number of bulls increased in order to do justice to all.

In June it was resolved to hold no fair this year, to expend our funds in importing lambs from P. E. Island, or wherever would be more

expedient. In September it was deemed advisable to import from P. E. Island 20 ram and 11 ewe lambs; Mr. David McNairn was chosen to proceed to the Island and purchase the above named stock. The amount of subscriptions this year being less than last the government grant was \$172.00 instead of \$200.00 as last year.

The crops in this county, excepting wheat, may be considered a fair average, and the farming interests of the county in a flourishing condition.

C. B. WHIDDEN,
Secretary.

CAPE BRETON COUNTY.

NORTH SYDNEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

[PRESIDENT'S LETTER.]

North Sydney, 9th Decem., 1865.

The North Sydney Agricultural Society held their annual meeting on Tuesday last agreeably to law, at which prizes were awarded for wheat, barley, oats, butter, &c., which you will perceive by the Secretary's report; the grain exhibited was of a good quality—wheat 66lbs., oats 4 lbs., per bushel. The crops have been very fair in this district, and all kinds of produce command a high price. The Society have awarded very trifling premiums, reserving their funds to purchase improved stock, which is much wanted. They seem to think the black sea wheat best adapted to this climate. Can you inform me where it can be purchased in the Spring for seed, and also the best breed of Sheep, Pigs, &c. (Can any correspondent favor us with information on these points?)

T. S. BOWS, *President.*

[SECRETARY'S REPORT.]

The annual meeting of this Society was held in the Temperance Hall at North Sydney on Tuesday the 5th day of December, L. Robertson, Esq., in the chair, the President, Thomas S. Bown, Esq., not being able to attend. The officers and directors for the past year were re-elected without opposition, as follows:—Thom. S. Bown, President; L. Robertson, Vice-President; Alexander Musgrave, Secretary; William Johnston, Treasurer; Messrs. Moses Hull, Henry Musgrave, James Munn, Alexander Gillis, and John Forbes, directors.

All the members of the Society are anxious to procure some choice breed of sheep, and a bull or two, either from Canada or P. E. Island, and the directors were earnestly requested to attend to this matter as early as possible. It was moved and seconded that forty or fifty dollars be advanced from the funds of the Society to procure some foreign wheat, the black sea wheat if possible; this was objected to and over-ruled, as most of the members wished to confine the funds for a year or two to come, chiefly to the improvement of their live stock, save and except what was absolutely required to pay for prizes. Immediately after, the business of the meeting was closed, an exhibition was held, but on a very limited scale, where prizes were awarded to the following parties;—Henry Musgrave, for the best cheese, 10s.; second best do., Mrs. Mary Johnston, 7s. 6d. Alexander Musgrave, for best butter, 10s.; second do., Henry Musgrave, 7s. 6d. Henry Musgrave, for best wheat (64 lbs.) 12s. 6d.; second do., Alexander Morse, 7s. 6d. Alexander Morse, 7s. 6d. Alexander Musgrave for best barley, 10s.; second best Jas. Munn, 7s. 6d. William Gillis for best oats, 44 lbs., 10s.; second best Henry Musgrave. James Moore for best buckwheat, 57 lbs., 10s.; second best Henry Musgrave. James Moore for best hay seed, 10s.; second best Henry Musgrave, 7s. 6d. William England for best homespun, nil wool, 10s.; second best Mrs. James Johnson, 7s. 6d. Alex. Musgrave for best homespun, cotton and wool, 10s.;

second best Wm. Gillis. Alex Moore for best flannel, 10s., second best Wm England, 7s. 6d.

Secretary's acct. with Society.

Dn.	
Paid for implements and clover seed	\$86 00
" prices in implements, &c.	39 50
Cash on hand at date	140 05
	\$265 55
Cr.	
Paid by members in 1864	\$42 00
Received from Government in 1864	64 00
Paid by members in 1865	42 00
Received from Government in 1865	86 00
Sale of implements, clover seed, &c.	30 55
	\$265 55
By balance cash on hand, as above,	\$140 05
Implements on hand	50 00
	\$190 05

STATE OF THE CROPS OF 1865.

Wheat.—A good crop in most localities, but very sparingly sowed, our farmers having generally discontinued its cultivation within the last few years, by reason of repeated failures from the weevil and other causes.

Buckwheat.—An excellent crop in this township, and more generally cultivated within the last few years than formerly.

Oats.—From the season having been unusually wet, oats ran much into straw, and did not fill well. Still an average crop.

Barley.—A full average crop, but not raised to any extent in our district.

Hay.—A good crop, above the ordinary average, but from the wet season was in many instances heated in a dangerous state.

ROOT CROPS.

Potatoes.—A very poor crop, not certainly one half the crop of 1864. They suffered from an over wet season, and the blight took them earlier than usual.

Turnips.—A fair crop, but not raised to any extent by our farmers, many of whom raise none at all,—a sad neglect, and for which it is hard to allege a reason. In no part of the world is such a crop more required, with our long cold winters, while the cattle are kept on dry feed for six months of the year. The truth is, our farmers are not, as yet, fully aware of the great benefit the cultivation of that valuable root would be to them. Their cows would reward them with more milk,—which is, of itself, of no small value in the winter season,—and their manure heap would be doubled in bulk and value, by a feed of turnips being given to their cattle every day.

Beets, Carrots, and Mangel Wurtzel are not raised by any of our farmers, except in small patches in gardens.

Cabbages.—A far greater attention is paid to the cultivation of this vegetable, within the last few years, than formerly, and which meets with a ready market in our own harbour, chiefly from vessels after coal. Cabbages were a good crop this season.

THOS. S. BOWEN,
President.
A. G. MUSGRAVE,
Secretary.

SYDNEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

During the past year 44 members have joined the society by the payment of one dollar each, making the receipts for 1865, \$44, which, added to \$175—the unappropriated balance in the hands of the treasurer last year,—makes a total of \$219, now in his hands.

Your directors regret that some of the members of the society seem disposed to insist on the carrying out of an old resolution on the

books; the same having passed prior to the formation of the present board; but they trust no further attempt will be made to force upon the society a measure which the central board cannot legally sanction.

They also regret that owing to their ignorance of the requirements of the Central Board, there is some danger of being excluded from a participation in the Provincial grant for the present year; the Central Board having altered the time for receiving the reports of the various societies to the first of September, no notice of which was received by your directors until ten days before the time for sending the report, when, although they made an effort to do so, they had not time to call upon all the members of the society, and had to defer sending any report to the Central Board. It is the opinion of the directors, however, from a careful reading of the act, that under sec. 22, cap. 96, R. S., this society is entitled to its share of the Provincial Grant, as the act does not require any report to be sent by the societies to the Central Board until after the annual meeting in December, unless at the organization of the society. [The Act does not require a Report, but it requires a certificate under oath that the subscriptions have been paid.—Ed.]

Your directors have not succeeded in purchasing either the rams, boars, or bulls contemplated when the list report was submitted. At the last meeting the price was limited to too low a figure, to secure such animals as they conceived could be of material service in improving our present breeds. Your directors did anticipate that they would have an opportunity to secure some of the animals imported this fall by the Central Board, but the very short notice given of the sale of those animals, precluded any attempt to purchase any of them. It is to be hoped that in all future importations of stock at the provincial expense, an opportunity may be afforded to the parts of the province more remote from the capital, to participate, if they so wish, in the benefit of a measure to which all equally contribute, and in which all are equally interested. [The principal sale took place on 15th November, of which advertisement was telegraphed to the Cape Breton News, Sydney, on 28th October.]

Your directors recommend that some member of this society be selected, either to purchase or to report to the directors the propriety of purchasing animals of improved breeds during the present year.

Your directors also recommend that the necessary arrangements be made for holding an Agricultural Exhibition in Sydney during 1866, at which prizes shall be given for animals, grains, roots, fruit, &c., &c.

In the spring of the present year \$178 of the funds were used for the purchase of choice seeds and implements, which have been disposed of to the members, and the amount thus temporarily alienated has been returned to the funds of the society, leaving them intact for the purposes sanctioned by the Central Board, and by the "Act for the Encouragement of Agriculture" 44 members have paid their subscriptions up to December 5th, 1865.

The following office-bearers have been elected for 1866.—President: H. Davenport; Vice President: Thomas Butler; Secretary: C. F. Harrington; Treasurer: William Buchanan; Directors: Alexander Howie, Alexander Campbell, Samuel Peters, jr., J. S. Ingraham, Patrick Caddigan.

Copy of Bye-Laws passed at the annual meeting of the Sydney Agricultural Society, Dec. 5, 1865.

Resolved—That the President, or in his absence the Vice-president of this Society, be requested to call a meeting of the directors, at which not less than three shall be a quorum, every alternate month, to discuss all such matters, and carry out measures, as shall tend to advance the interests of this Society.

C. H. HARRINGTON, Sec'y.

BOULARDERIE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Boulauderie Agricultural Society held the Annual Meeting on the first Tuesday of December, when the Directors informed the meeting that they had little to report, as at the October meeting a majority of the Directors had voted against holding an exhibition, believing it more beneficial for the Society to reserve their funds for the purpose of importing improved Stock; but at the same time had to say that they bought a lot of seeds, which were sold to Subscribers at reduced prices, but did not recommend that practice for the future, and proposed the funds on hand to be used next summer in importing Stock.

Treasurers Account.

1864.		
Members subscription,		\$44 00
Balance of Provincial Grant.		18 00
1865.		
Members Subscription,		47 00
Provincial Grant.		84 00
		\$193 00
Secretary's Salary	\$8 00	
Incidental expenses,	1 50	
		9 50

Balance in the Treasurer's hands, \$183 50
The Society's Officers are.—President, Hugh McKinnon; Vice-President, Ezekiah Hubbard; Secretary, Murdoch McDonald; Treasurer, Donald McLean; Directors, Hugh McKinnon, Thos. Campbell, John Ross, James Dunlap, and John Henning.

Regarding our crops I may observe that after a remarkably fine spring, the month of May commenced very cold and wet, and continued so to the last, with occasional frosts, so that our Potatoes were very late in planting and although the crop in almost every locality within the boundaries of our Society appeared very healthy and luxuriant. Yet being taken very early with the blight, it proved almost a failure, being no more than the third of a crop, and that of very inferior quality. By the same cause our Grains were also late in sowing, but the July weather being most favorable, with frequent rain, so that grains of all sorts were a good full average crop.

The Turnip crop was not equal to last year's yield, being barely an average crop, the excessive rains in autumn, and being attacked with blight retarded their growth; the farmers who cultivate to the best advantage are now using ground Gypsum, and some farmers are sanguine as to its usefulness in saving the plant from the ravages of the fly, but experience would indicate that it is not so valuable to destroy the fly, as it is for cooling the soil, by which means the ground is kept in a better position to retain the putrescent effluvia emanating from the manure, which matter nourishes the tender plant and gives it an early start, previously to its arriving at such strength and maturity as to absorb nutriment directly from the rank manure, and giving it a good start, has great tendency to save it from the effects of drought as well as the depredation of flies.

Notwithstanding the partial failure of the Potato crop, the farmers of this section have abundance for themselves, and stock for the year, and also something to spare for the market.

MURDOCH McDONALD, Sec'y.
Little Bras d'Or, 26th Dec. 1865.

COLCHESTER COUNTY.

TATAMAGOUCHE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Tatamagouche, Oct. 25, 1865.

A meeting was held in the Town Hall this day, for the purpose of forming an Agricultural Society. Hon. A. Patterson was appointed Chairman, and D. A. Campbell, Secretary.

Seventy-eight persons having signed the declaration required by law, it was moved by Mr. John Bonnyman, and seconded by Mr. W. Dobson, and unanimously *Resolved*—"That the meeting do now form themselves into an Agricultural Society."

The following persons were then chosen office-bearers until the annual meeting in December:—*Pres.*, D. A. Campbell; *Vice-Pres.*, Jas. Clark; *Sec'y and Treas.*, A. H. Patterson; *Directors*, David Cunningham, Jas. Semple, John Bonnyman, John Mcintosh, Alex. Ross.

It was then unanimously *Resolved*—"That the directors now appointed be directed to confer with the directors of the Stirling Agricultural Society, with a view to an amalgamation of the society at the next annual meeting."

It was moved and seconded, and unanimously *Resolved*—"That the secretary be directed to correspond with the secretary of the Central Board of Agriculture, and ascertain how the proceedings of this meeting."

Resolved—"That the following gentlemen, viz: John Bonnyman, Stewart Kissetpugh, Jas. Clark, John McIntosh, Daniel Morrow, James Langille and Alex. Ross, be appointed to solicit subscriptions to the society, and to collect the subscriptions of members, and pay the same to the treasurer within one month."

Resolved—"That the directors be authorized to call a special meeting, should they consider it advisable to do so, before the time of the annual meeting."

[There being already four Societies in Colchester County, this Society cannot participate in the Government Grant without amalgamating with one of them.]

SHUBENA CADIE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE FOR DECEMBER 5TH, 1865.

We, your committee, having in our possession the books of the society, &c., beg leave to report as follows:—

- 1st.—We find the directors have received from the treasurer, notes of hand to collect to the amount of - - - - - £86 1 0
2nd.—We find they have bought three sheep for the society, at the Prov. sale, which cost - - - - - £46 15 0
Purchase and keep - - - - - 4 13 1
3rd.—We find they have handed to treas. - - - - - 34 12 11—\$6 1 0

Treasurer's Account.

- 1st.—We find there was in the treasurer's hands at the commencement of this year, in cash and notes of hand, to the amt. of £122 6 3
2nd.—We find he received during the present year for subscription of forty-one members - - - - - 10 5 0
For Government Grant - - - - - 12 10 0
From Board of Directors - - - - - 34 12 11

£179 14 2

We find the treasurer has paid as follows: to old directors for amt. due, with interest - £44 15 6½
Notes given to directors to collect - - - - - 86 1 0—130 16 6½

Amt. in hands of treasurer - £48 17 7½
F. B. PARKER, *President.*
DAVID MOORE, *Secretary.*

STIRLING AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

No Report.

UPPER STEWIAKKE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

No Report.

UPPER LONDONDERRY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Upper Londonderry Agricultural Society, was held on Friday the 1st day of December, according to notice given by provincial papers.

The following officers were appointed for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, Jas. Campbell, Esq.; *Vice-Pres.*, Thomas Morrison; *Sec'y*, D. H. Layton; *Treas.*, Thomas Faulkner.

The following accounts were then presented to the society, examined by the auditing committee and reported correct:—

1865.	Dr.	
	Paid for books and stationery - -	\$1 94
	" Three bulls for use of society -	115 00
	" Ex of keeping bulls in spring -	10 00
	" do do summer -	10 20
	" For 12 runs for use of society -	63 00
	" Money borrowed with interest -	60 61
		\$263 45
1864	Cr.	
	Am't received from subscribers -	\$67 00
	" " as dues - - - - -	4 00
1865		
	" Borrowed for purchase of stock,	58 10
	" Received from subscribers -	69 00
	" Government allowance - - -	73 00
	" Overplus on purchase of stock -	4 30
		\$380 30
	Balance on hand - - - - -	16 85

The following is a state of the crops in Upper Londonderry in 1865.—Hay, an average crop; Wheat, a failure, destroyed by weevil, not much sown; Oats, half a crop; Barley, good, not much sown; Buckwheat, light, too much dry weather; Potatoes, half a crop, but of a better quality than for some years; Turnips, a failure; Carrots, a failure; Indian Corn, good, but not much planted.

This report is brief, but about to the point.—Our members do not take as much interest in the society as we would wish, but when we get into good working order we hope for better things. If you can give us a visit next summer we would take it as a great favor; it would stir up our members, and, perhaps, cause more exertion on their part.

I could not get any information from the society as regards the travelling of one of the horses in this part of the district, but I think there is no encouragement, as our members think there is more profit in improving the breeds of cattle and sheep.

JAS. CAMPBELL,
President.

D. F. LAYTON,
Secretary.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

WALLACE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Amount of Subscription conformable to report submitted to the C. Board in August \$67 50
Subsequently received - - - - - 3 00

Total amount of subscription to date - \$70 00
Amount of grant - - - - - 82 00
Balance in hand from last year - - - 172 53

\$325 03
Paid for Provincial Sheep - \$216 60
Expenses of going to P. E.
Island for stock - - - - - 16 00
Contingent exp as per account, 9 00
For Boar of English breed - - - - - 20 00

\$261 60
Balance in hand 5th December, 1865 - \$63 43

President: Patrick Mackay; *Vice-President*: George Tuttle; *Secretary*: Donald McKay.

PARRSBORO' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The last annual meeting of the Society was held at Jonathan Vickrey's (adjourned same day from the Lower Hall, Mill Village) on Friday the 6th December 1864. The previous year's report not being prepared in consequence of the meeting having taken place under the new law a month earlier than it was appointed by our former rules and all the returns not being completed the principal officers were directed to prepare the report from the usual resolutions and documents soon as received, and transmit it to the Central Board of Agriculture, which was done. The treasurer's account for 1864 was also copied off and transmitted it to the Central Board of Agriculture with the annual report for the year 1864; officers were elected to serve in 1865. Letters were read from ten persons stating that they had withdrawn from the society.

The Committee met at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday the 4th April 1865 adjourned from the Town Hall the same day. Bounties and premiums were then established for the setting out of fruit trees and bonnies were established on compost made and Swedish turnips and wheat raised in 1865. Resolutions were passed to purchase three bull calves in Mimidie from the new breed, to be sold in the different sections of the society, and to expend a small sum in the purchase of pigs to improve the breed.

The Committee met at Jonathan Vickrey's, Mill Village, on Tuesday the 7th November 1865, when payments on cattle and swine, donations and bounties were allowed and a ledger paid for, to the amount of £44 3s. 9d.—viz: ledger £1 1s. 3d.; donation for a covered shed made in 1864, 10s; purchase and keep of Chester White Boar, £4; purchase and driving two bull calves from Mimidie £3 15s. Bounty on crops raised and on oatmeal and compost made in 1864, for which the accounts were not received till 1865, £6 2s. 6d; on wheat raised in 1865, £6 10s; on compost made in 1865, £12 5s.; on Swedish turnips raised in 1865, £3, on covered sheds for saving manure in, made in 1865, £2. It was resolved that the society's Chester white boar be kept at Thomas Kirkpatrick's first, as a central place for our farmers, at 10s. per month through the winter, and that members be each allowed to put one sow to him free; those not members to pay 2s. 6d. each sow. That the bull calf unsold be given to Daniel F. Holmes on condition that he keep him as a bull in the district until he is five years old, unless John Hanning, or some other member will take him at costs and charges upon the same conditions.

Through the year the treasurer has received £28 17s. 4d., from members; of this £26 17s. 6d., is subscriptions for 1865, and £1 19s. 10d., averages of subscriptions for years previous to 1862. He also received £1 17s. 6d., for a bull calf—one of those bought by society in Mimidie—and 25s. additional grant from the Central Board of Agriculture for 1864. These sums with the balance in hand from last year of £16 12s. 3d., make the sum of the funds for the year to be £48 12s. 1d; out of this, payments were made for a ledger, Chester white boar, two bull calves, donation for a covered stable made in 1864. Bounties on wheat, hay-seed, compost and oatmeal, in 1864, not claimed till 1865. Bounties on wheat and turnips raised in 1865, and on compost and covered sheds made in 1865 to the amount as before stated of £44 3s. 9d.; postage 2s. 11d.; room to hold meetings of Committee in, 1865, 5s.; services of Secretary and stationary, used by him in 1865, 22s. 6d., were paid, leaving a balance in the treasurer's hands at the close of the business for this year, of £2 17s. 10½d.

Out of 139 members in 1864, ten withdrew, two died, and one removed. Thirteen having joined the society in 1865, 135 are liable to pay 5s. each in 1865. From these £26 17s. 6d., was received, leaving an arrearage of £7 17s. 6d., on the subscriptions of 1865.

Twenty-one numbers of the Journal of Agriculture for Nova Scotia have been regularly received and read throughout the district, but no money has as yet been received from the Central Board of Agriculture out of the provincial vote for the County of Cumberland for 1865 wherewith to pay for the papers and strengthen our funds. No doubt money has been assigned to our Society and will be forthcoming at an early day.

Correspondence was had with the Amherst Society about joining them in having a cattle show this fall. There appeared to be no desire either to have one here or to join the Society in Amherst in having one as suggested by the provincial act concerning Agriculture. There were no funds to appropriate to this purpose, and but few from the place would be at the expense of attending such an exhibition especially if held at Amherst, unless it were provincial, and on a scale large enough to attract exhibitors from the surrounding counties and visitors from the adjoining Province.

Suggestions have been made to the Central Board of Agriculture to divide the money among the societies upon the whole sum paid in as subscriptions throughout the year, upon that paid in after the day of their distribution, as well as upon that paid in before,—as being more impartial and as likely to give more general satisfaction, and as encouraging members to pay and societies to collect arrears due. To do this, sums paid towards the end of the year to be carried forward to the next year. It is hoped the Central Board will act upon this suggestion, and give us in 1865 what we were short paid in 1864, together with the regular allowance due in 1865.

The society now owns three rams and a boar pig, from which it is hoped good will follow. As it is found expensive to keep pigs and cattle, some risk to the society and troublesome to manage them, it will be advisable to sell the sheep and pigs after one or two years, and not to repeat the experiment of purchasing stock, unless some particular necessity should arise requiring it.—Private enterprise is continually supplying our farmers with the best breeds introduced into the country. At present superior breeds and breeding animals of the different kinds kept here are every where to be found. They only require extra food and care to show what they are capable of producing. Other objects, but of equal importance, come better within the scope of the limited means of our society and the wants of the agricultural section of county it represents, such as draining, stimulating the culture of fruit, grain crops, and vegetables, making and saving manure, the manufacture of oatmeal and agricultural implements, and the circulation and distribution of agricultural books and papers. To these objects in future the committee would advise the society to confine its attention, rather than holding exhibitions and importing stock, provided the Central Board of Agriculture interpose no objections.

Our hay crop this year was very good, one quarter—in some places one half—better than last year. The weather being dry it was all got in, in good condition. Potatoes were a very light crop, in many places affected much with the blight. Fields planted late succeeded well. Wheat was not generally sown this spring, but wherever put in it did well, with very little complaint of rust or weevil. The rye crops at Meccan, (always sown in the fall) ripened early and well. There was a fair crop of Swedish turnips. It is thought they would have succeeded better, but for the drought throughout the summer. Oats were a fine crop everywhere. Apples were a much better crop than it was thought they would be after the heavy crop of last year, and the heavy frosts experienced in June while the trees were in blossom. The crop is about one third as good as that of last year. There was a very small crop of wild fruits, owing to the spring frosts. Cranberries, rasp-berries, and blue-berries, usually quite plentiful, were rarely to be found in our fields and pastures this year. There

was a light crop of straw-berries and goose-berries. Buckwheat, beets, carrots, and parsnips, succeeded well. In some gardens cabbages were a failure, owing to the dry summer.

Good prices have been obtained throughout the season for cattle and produce nearly as follows: Hay, 15s. per ton; beef, 33s. per 100lbs., pork, 4d. per lb.; butter 1s. to 1s 3d. per lb.; potatoes, 2s. 6d. per bushel; oats, 2s. per do., wheat, 8s. per do.; geese 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d. each, turkeys 6d. per lb.; cows, £4 to £6 each, working oxen, £15 to £20 per pair; lambs, 8s. to 10s. each, old ewes, 10s. to 15s. each; twilled homespun cloth for trousers, all wool, 4s. to 5s. per yard, twilled cotton and wool 4s. to 5s. per yard, flannel, cotton and wool, plain, 2s. 6d. per yard, twilled, all wool, for blankets, 4s. per yard; raw hides, 3d per lb.; wool, 2s per lb.; eggs 7½ per dozen, chickens 1s. 3d per pair.

By order of the Committee.

T. D. DICKSON, *President*.
J. T. SMITH, *Secretary*.

Parrsboro' 7th Nov., 1865.

AMHERST AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS, DECEMBER 5TH, 1865.

Your board of officers have to report that they deemed it for the interest of the society to hold a Show the past autumn, for which they made the necessary arrangements, and offered one hundred and twenty dollars in premiums, according to a prize list which they published. The Show was held on the 31st October last, and largely attended. There was a good display of cattle, and of draft and young horses; indeed every department was well represented except grain and fruit,—but four samples of the former, and none of the latter.

There were thirty-seven horses and colts, and seventy-two head of cattle, thirty five sheep and lambs, twenty entries of butter and but two of cheese.

Your Board had decided in expending the balance of the cash in the treasury in purchasing stock this fall, but not having received the provincial grant for the past year they were unable to carry out their desire in the matter.

The returns required by law were sent to the secretary of the Central Board, on the first day of September last.

The receipts of the society have been as follows

Bal. cash on hand	- - -	\$41.05
Cash from Receiver General	- - -	61.00
do. from members	- - -	55.00
		\$157.05

Board of officers for the current year:—*Pres*: Hon. R. B. Dicke; *Vice-Pres*, T. R. Black; *Secy*, J. Hiram Black; *Treas.*, W. F. Cutten; *Directors*: G. W. Forrest, Thomas Bacon, T. Bent, William Embler, and Jas. M. Layton.

J. HIRAM BLACK,
Secretary.

MINUDIE AND BARRONSFIELD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Minudie, Dec. 30th, 1865.

We beg to inform you that we have this day formed an Agricultural Society, under the name and form of the "Minudie and Barronsfield Agricultural Society." We have forty-five members, and have collected, so far, \$43.50.

ROBERT MITCHELL,
President.
GILBERT SEAMAN,
Secretary.

DIGBY COUNTY.

DIGBY CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In presenting this, the first annual report, we regret to say that difficulties over which we had no control presented themselves, that were the cause of many persons who had signed their names to the declaration for the purpose of becoming members of the society, to decline paying their subscriptions, in consequence of which the requisite number of paying members was not obtained until late in August, to entitle the society to participate in a share of the government grant, therefore but little progress has been made beyond getting the society into working condition. We feel encouraged, however, in being able to report that our prospects are promising for the future.

The society at present numbers forty members,	Amount of subscriptions	- - -	\$41.00
do. Government grant	- - -	- - -	\$2.00

Secy's salary, printing, postage, &c.	\$123.00
Balance in hands of treasurer	\$111.00

As regards the agricultural productions in this district during the past season we would say, that there was but little wheat sown. Oats, barley and buckwheat was about an average yield; the season was unfavourable for roots, yet a fair crop was raised.

As we have had no importation of cattle and sheep for many years, our stock is rather inferior, but hope we shall have some imported breeds the next season.

In concluding this report we hope that a deeper and more wide-spread interest in agriculture may incite the liberal appropriations of the legislature, for its advancement and encouragement, and that important benefits may yet be realized.

The officers for the ensuing year are:—*Pres.*, Robert Reed; *Vice-Pres.*, William John; *Secy*, Jas. M. Aymer; *Treas.*, Wm. Aymer; *Directors*, John Dakin, Esq., William M. Jones, Ephraim Bacon, Charles McNeil, John Abbott.

ROBERT REED,
President.

JAS. M. AYMER,
Secretary.

CLARE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

[No. Report.]

GUYSBORO' COUNTY.

GLENELG AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Thinking it more advisable to expend the funds of the society in the purchasing of improved bulls and rams, than in holding an exhibition this year, we, after having obtained your approbation so to apply our money, used our best endeavours to procure a suitable supply of these animals for the society, but have only succeeded in procuring one bull, (Ayrshire) and two rams from P.E.,—prize animals.

Respecting the crops, it is gratifying to be able to inform you that they have been generally abundant. Hay was far above the average. Oats, too, well above the average, both in straw and in grain. Barley was an average one. Wheat was generally better than it has been for many years. Buckwheat was about the average. Potatoes are the only crop of which we cannot speak so encouragingly, but, on the whole, was a fair one when compared with the crops of the last ten or twelve years.

The following is a statement of the accounts of the society:—

In hand at annual meeting, Dec. 1865, amount of subscription	\$53.00
Dec. 13, 1864. By prov. allowance	106.00
Aug. 26, 1865. " amt. of subscription	40.00
	<hr/>
	\$199.00
Apr. 13, 1865. To expense in endeavoring to procure a bull, paid for one bull and two rams	\$11.00
Nov. 1. " " " " " "	85.55
Dec. 5, " " " " " "	10.00
" " " " " "	4.50
" " " " " "	0.50
	<hr/>
	\$111.55
Leaving a balance in treasurer's hands, Dec. 5, 1865, of	87.45

The society have resolved to expend the sum of \$100 in an exhibition next year.

Pres., Saml. Archibald; *Vice-Pres.*, Alex. Fisher; *Sec'y and Treas.*, John A. Kirk; *Directors*, Edward McKeen, William McKeen, Lewis McIntosh, Isaac Archibald and John D. McKenzie.

The bulls and rams are to be kept by the society for the use of members only.

S. ARCHIBALD,
President.
JOHN A. KIRK,
Secretary.

HALIFAX COUNTY.

WESTERN HALIFAX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS.

Halifax, 5th Dec., 1865.

As required by law, the directors of the Western Halifax Agricultural Society present their first annual report to the members. The period of the Society's existence has as yet been too short to permit of the exhibition of much practical result. The Society was organized in March 1865, when the present office bearers were elected.

The number of the Society's members is 84. The amount of subscriptions received during the year, \$165; the expenditure \$149.25; balance in the treasurer's hands, \$21.75. The Society has not as yet received any share of the government grant, but will be entitled to draw its just proportion this season.

A Ploughing Match was held on the farm of Adam Reid, Esq., Bedford, on Monday, 30th October, 1865. This being the first match that had ever been held in the locality, the number of competitors was small; but much interest was evinced in the competition, and a large number of members and their friends from the city visited the field, and afterwards took part in the proceedings at the dinner in the evening, when the Hon. Chief Justice Young, the Society's president, presided. The following prize were awarded:—

OPEN PRIZES. SOCIETY'S PRIZES.

- 1 Nathan Ellis - - \$10
- 2 B. Fultz - - - - - 4
- 1 Daniel Sullivan \$10
- 2 C. Heffer - - - - - 6
- 3 James Hanson - 4

The Government having this season imported from England a number of very superior sheep of the improved Leicester Breed, the directors purchased what they believed to be the best ram of the lot, at a cost of £23 10s. The ram has for the ensuing winter been placed under the care of Charles Hamilton, Esq., Sackville, who has agreed to keep 25 good ewes for the season, and to deliver over to the society in August next all the ram lambs produced by his flock at the uniform rate of \$3 each; the ram likewise to be then

given back to the society in good condition. The directors hope by this arrangement to be able to supply all the members who are raisers of sheep with a good ram lamb at a reasonable rate.

Several other means of promoting agricultural improvement in the western district of Halifax county have been suggested by members, and will fall to be discussed at the present and future meetings.

The directors believe that interest has been awakened in regard to agricultural pursuits, and that the society is likely to exercise a very beneficial influence throughout the district over which its operations extend.

Subscriptions received \$165. Paid ploughing match prizes \$94. Price of Leicester Ram, \$94. Sundry payments for printing, advertising, &c., \$12 25. Balance in hand \$24.75.

The above report was approved of at the annual meeting of the members, and the directors were requested to take into consideration the propriety of holding an agricultural exhibition in the city of Halifax during the ensuing season.

DARFMOUTh AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

December 5th, 1865.

At a meeting of the above society, held this evening at the residence of Mr. A. Khun, present M. Tobin, *President*, and twenty other members.

REPORT ON POTATOES RECEIVED FROM CENTRAL BOARD.

Mr. John C. Bisset planted nineteen early Goodrich seedling which yielded 220 sound and 25 rotten; after being twice frozen they were planted in dry ground.

No 241 turned out very poor in quality, and half rotten.

Mr. A. Farquharson, Jr., planted seven early Goodrich, nearly one pound, which yielded thirty-two pounds, sound, and a few affected by disease. Similar statements are made by P. McNab, Sr., R. Humphrey, and Mr. Khurr, as regards early Goodrich. No. 241 are, in every instance where planted, condemned.

The prizes were then announced, for the full list of which we have not room in the present number.

A discussion ensued on the various modes of cultivation practised by those who were successful in gaining prizes, by which much information was imparted to the meeting. The gratifying fact that the exhibitors of wheat, barley, black and white oats, were prizemen at the late Provincial exhibition held in the horticultural gardens was also communicated.

Treasurer's Account.

Balance on hand 6th Dec., 1864	- £5 9 9
Received by subscription	- - 11 10 0
	<hr/>
	£16 19 9
Paid prizes	- - - - - £13 16 4
" printing	- - - - - 1 3 9
Balance on hand	- - - - - 1 19 8
	<hr/>
	£16 19 9

This report examined, found correct, and unanimously approved of.

The following officers were elected by acclamation. — *Pres.*, M. Tobin; *Vice-Prest.*, A. Khun; *Sec'y*, T. Short; *Treas.*, A. Falloch; *Directors*, A. Tobin, A. Farquharson, J. Bissett, P. McNab, John Morash

The president was respectfully requested to vacate the chair, whereon Mr. C. Lamont took the seat; it was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously, that a vote of thanks be tendered to our president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and directors, for their zeal in promoting the cause of the Dartmouth Agricultural Society, which was kindly acknowledged by the president.

T. SHORT,
Secretary.

EASTERN DISTRICT OF HALIFAX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

No Report.

LOWER MUSQUODOBOIT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

No Report.

MIANTS COUNTY.

FENWICK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NOEL.

Noel, 2nd Jan. 1866.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter dated 13th ult., with Journals of Agriculture, &c., and, as the result, am happy to inform you, that a meeting was held yesterday evening, at which an agricultural society was organized, named the Fenwick Agricultural Society of Noel; we appointed our officers, opened a subscription and appointed persons to hand it round this week, and appointed a meeting for next Saturday evening to make further arrangements, by-laws, &c. In the mean time, we wish to know when we will need to have our subscriptions paid up to entitle us to be entered on the list as entitled to a share of the Government Grant, &c., and whether that grant would be drawn before the close of the year.

J. J. O'BRIEN.

[The Society will require to send in its return prior to 1st September. The appropriations to Societies cannot be made till then.]

NEWPORT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held in terms of the Act, on Tuesday, 5th December, Samuel Chambers, Esq., in the chair. The annual report of the board of management was read and adopted, and the treasurer's accounts were examined and found correct.

Office bearers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—*Pres.*, James W. Allan; *Vice-Pres.*, Samuel Chambers; *Sec'y and Treas.*, Charles Cochran; *Directors*, S. M. Weeks, M. D., Geo. J. Dimmock, Wm. B. Allison, John W. Harvie, and Isaac Sanford.

CHARLES COCHRAN,
Secretary.

WINDSOR AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

No Report.

INVERNESS COUNTY.

NORTH EAST MARGAREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Pres., Thos. Edithidge; *Vice-Pres.*, J. Cranton; *Sec'y*, John Munro; *Treas.*, Joseph Ingraham; *Directors*, Jno. Berron, Moses Macdonald, Reuben Philips, Thomas E. Croudis.

Receipts.—Balance from last year \$43.12; cash from members \$46; government grant, 1865, \$71; from Mr. Crowdis, balance of last year's bounty, \$46.20; other sources, \$16.77; total receipts \$229.97.

Expenditure.—J. Crowdis, his account \$15 80; D. Philips and M. Macdonald, for keep of two bulls \$40; B. Philips \$1; working expenses \$9.59; balance in hand, 2nd Dec., 1865, \$156.58.

JNO. MUNRO,
Secretary.

MABOU AND PORT HOOD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Annual Report of the officers and directors of the Mabou and Port Hood Agricultural Society,

of the county of Inverness, presented to said society at its annual meeting in December, 1865.

The said officers and directors beg to report that on Wednesday the 20th of September last, a meeting of the directors and members of the Agricultural Society of Mabou and Port Hood, was held at Mabou for the purpose of procuring the annual number of members required by law, and promoting the general objects of the society. The number of members being 47, and the amount of subscriptions \$53, together with the participation in provincial grant \$85, (yet to be drawn) with the two hundred dollars reported in December, 1864, will make the sum in treasurer's hands three hundred and thirty-eight dollars.

That on the 19th of June last the directors sent Allan Cameron, Esq., to Prince Edward Island, to select and procure stock for the society, but having failed in doing so, last September at meeting of the society. John H. McKeen, Esq., was engaged to procure the desired stock in P. E. Island, but reported no vessel could be found to freight the stock from P. E. Island. Finally, the directors procured the service of Robert Trotter, Esq., to select in Antigonish and Pictou improved breeds of cattle and sheep. Four bulls, and fifteen ram lambs were so purchased, and brought to Port Hood, early in December (this present month) and sold at public sale.

The cost of stock per Mr. Trotter's bill (purchased in Antigonish and Pictou) - - - \$171 00
Expenses in all to Port Hood - - - 47 00

Amount of Account Sales - - - 210 00

Loss to be sustained by Society - - - 8 60
Mr. Cameron's expenses to P. E. Island 12 30
Paid Mr. Croub's, Ag. Soc. Margaree - 2 00
John H. McKeen - - - 4 50
Expenses of Sec'y and Treasurer - - 14 15
Balance in Treasurer's hands at date - 211 45

\$218 60

210 00

Amount of subscriptions and grant 1863, reported December, 1865 - - - \$200 00

Amount of Subscriptions not including grant - - - 53 00

\$253 00

1865.

Dec. 26th, Balance in hand of Treas. \$211 00
Add to this prov. grant when drawn - 85 00

\$296 00

The four bulls purchased by Mr. Trotter for this Society, are represented to be Durham breeds.

The ram lambs are principally Leicester. There has been one ram imported from Canada to Halifax, and those purchased for this Society have not yet arrived; however, it was sold with the other stock, and the price \$18.50 is included in account sales, and it will be delivered upon its safe arrival to the purchaser.

We, the President and Secretary of the Mabou and Port Hood Agricultural Society, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the report of said society at its annual meeting in December 1865.

At the annual general meeting of this society held at Mabou on the first Tuesday of December, 1865, as required by chap. 96, sec. 18 of the revised statutes, the meeting organized by calling Geo. C. Lawrence, Esq., to the chair, and on motion having been seconded, the following gentlemen were unanimously elected officers-bearers for the ensuing year:—President, Peter Smith; Vice-President, Allan Cameron; Secretary and Treasurer, Hugh McDonald; Directors: Samuel McDonald, Donald McL. McDonald, J. D. Cameron, John McNeil, Angus Beaton.

HUGH McDONALD,
Secy. and Treas.

SOUTH-WEST MARGAREE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

No Report.

KING'S COUNTY.

UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF EAST CORNWALLIS.

We, the council of the U. A. Society of East Cornwallis, beg leave to submit the following report:

It is with much satisfaction that we have in our power to report an increase of membership over the past year, of seventeen, there being now fifty-seven members enrolled, fifty-five of whom have paid their dues for the year. This is a gratifying feature in the formation and conducting of the society, which we trust will be so managed in future as to merit the confidence of the farmers of Cornwallis.

Every farmer should be a member of an Agricultural Society, and thereby contribute to the benefit of the whole. Combinations of intelligent men can accomplish great and important results which it is impossible for single individuals to do, and hence the strong claims our society has upon the support and assistance of the intelligent men of the lower portion of this township.

During the short time (18 months) this society has been in operation, it has accomplished more than its promoters could have anticipated, with the small annual fee of one dollar (\$1.00) from each member, but at the same time we cannot be insensible to the fact that something is also due to the efficiency of the present law, regulating the formation and conducting of local societies, together with the large and increased grant for agricultural purposes placed at the disposal of the board of agriculture of Nova Scotia, by the legislature.

We also beg to say that we learn with pleasure that the board of agriculture are about recommending the legislature to purchase a farm, upon which it is contemplated to breed the different kinds of horses, cattle, sheep and swine, for the province, from imported stock of the highest pedigree and character.

The society, with the limited funds placed at their disposal, have now on hand two bulls, whose stock-getting properties are of a superior character, especially "Sir Gaspard," whose yearlings and calves indicate excellent parts and qualities.

The bull, purchased from the importation of the board of agriculture,—which was raised in New Brunswick from an imported bull and cow,—is a fine animal, and has served, for members, 45, for non-members, 63,—total, 109. We can probably count on 100 services.

The Durham bull "Sir Gaspard," since his purchase has served, for members, 8, for non-members, 5,—total, 13; making a total of 122. The infusion of this much blood of a superior bred animal cannot fail to make an impression upon the future stock of this section of the country, which we have no hesitation in saying is quite equal, if not superior, to any in the country.

The society will soon want a bull to take the place of "Sir Gaspard," and the council would recommend that the funds of the society be husbanded for the coming year, in order that one of a superior character may be procured.

The ram owned by the society has given very general satisfaction as regards the superiority of his lambs, and last year served about fifty sheep. They are unable to report the number of sheep this year, as the season is not yet ended. We would recommend that he be sold at the annual meeting, to be delivered in one fortnight, and that arrangements be made at an early day to purchase one or more good rams for the coming season; and we believe nearly as good sheep for our purposes can be obtained in New Brunswick at much less cost than from any other place.

In order that the society may be able to con-

duct its operations more successfully and efficiently, we would recommend that the annual payment of the members be increased, at least, to \$2 per annum. This would afford a much larger fund for the purchase of stock, or otherwise to advance the interest of the society, than possibly can be obtained from the fee now paid.

While we firmly believe that every farmer should be a member of an agricultural society, or otherwise contribute to its support and maintenance, yet we would hesitate to advise this society to shut the door of privileges wholly to non-members; yet we must confess that we believe it is but just and right to ourselves, while we contribute our subscriptions and time towards the promotion of the great cause of agriculture, to make a greater difference than heretofore between members and non-members in the privilege of the service of the animals belonging to them. This is a matter of importance, and we beg to call the attention of the society particularly to it.

Another important matter connected with the operation of this society for the past year was the cattle show at Wolfville. We cannot afford time and space in this report to go into the merits of the exhibition in general, and will dismiss the subject for the present by the single observation that in all enlightened countries they have become one of the settled institutions of the age, and would seem to be necessary for the collecting and grouping together of the science, skill and art shown in the production of the finest specimens of stock of all description and kind, implements of husbandry, and of everything directly or indirectly bearing upon the productions of the farmer.

The cattle show took place at Wolfville, on Wednesday, the 11th day of October, being the same day on which the "Fruit Grower's Association" held their third and most successful exhibition, which called a larger number of persons together than otherwise would have attended. The day was somewhat favourable, but rather cold for the cattle in the field which were not sheltered.

The exhibition being held under the auspices of this and the society of Lower Horton, a much larger number of animals might have been expected on exhibition, but we attribute this largely to the fact, especially in reference to young cattle, that there was not a large number of premiums in each department. Many farmers ascertaining that their neighbours had a finer animal, would not take the trouble or go to the expense of taking the animal to the exhibition, feeling assured that they could not possibly obtain a premium, and further, would not suffer the supposed mortification of being excelled by their more successful neighbours. This should not be so, and we hope that at future exhibitions this will be largely remedied.

There were, however, on the ground, 18 horses of all kinds (exclusive of sucking colts), 8 bulls, 25 pairs oxen and steers, 19 cows, 10 heifers, 11 rams, 16 ewes and lambs, 5 boars, 2 sows with litter of pigs. The exhibition being confined to cattle, horses, sheep and swine, there was no display of agricultural implements.

One very gratifying fact to this society is, that the bull and rams which they exhibited took first prizes in their class, a proof that the class of animals owned by this society are of a first-class character.

The awards by the judges, as far as we can learn, gave very general satisfaction to all parties interested.

The expenses, which will be reported in the treasurer's account, connected with the exhibition are trifling, the combined council and committee giving their time gratis.

While we are of the opinion that an annual county exhibition would be attended with beneficial results, we cannot, as before expressed, advise another the coming season, for reasons there stated.

It might not be out of place here to make a remark or two in reference to the fruit exhibition at Wolfville, which was held the same day as our

cattle show, as every farmer is, to some extent, a fruit grower.

Those of the farmers who visited that exhibition must have been struck with the quantity, quality, and variety of apples, especially of the first exhibited there, and it is firmly believed that a finer display of apples never took place in Nova Scotia on any occasion,—a display which justly merited the eulogies of foreigners and our own fruit growers.

Fruit growing is fast becoming an important interest in this country, and it behoves every farmer who attempts to cultivate fruit to make himself somewhat acquainted with the best sorts, habits and growth of different varieties of apples, the diseases of them, and the insects which destroy and damage the fruit.

The old adage applies with much force to fruit cultivation—"What is worth doing is worth doing well."

We are happy to be able to say that while in many parts of Nova Scotia, and in some portions of our county, there was a partial failure of the apple crop, that in this section, although not a full average crop, there was a fair one and of a decidedly superior quality, and reaching prices hitherto unknown with us. The more the apple is cultivated the more it becomes a source of food for the human family, and it is one of the most wholesome of all fruits.

In reference to the various crops of the season we beg to report as follows:—Hay is a little below the average of good seasons, but it is of excellent quality, and has seldom been secured in better condition. This crop, to the farmers of King's county, must always be looked upon with importance, in consequence of the long and unceasing interest taken in the growth and fattening of neat cattle. The prudent farmer will always set apart sufficient grounds for this crop, and above all others will use that care and skill in securing it, which its importance demands.

Wheat is very far below an average crop, and, in fact, by the small quantity sowed by the farmers, may be said to be no crop at all in proportion to its importance as human food. More faithful trials might have been made with winter wheat, and some sorts which are said to resist the weevil in Canada and the United States, to a great extent. An agricultural district, like King's Co., should produce more bread.

Rye, hardly an average crop, especially the spring sown, winter rye being much the best.

Oats, early sown proving, although a light crop, yet of good quality; while the late sown, in most instances, was not only a small yield, but of light weight.

Barley, good, but little sown. We would recommend the much larger cultivation of the crop, with oats especially, for hog and horse feed.—This is a pretty certain crop, affords a large amount of nutriment, and does not require the highest cultivated land.

Indian corn was more than the average crop, and with some persons exceedingly well filled and a good yield. We are of the opinion that with care in planting, and the selection of good seeds of the earlier sorts, there is no difficulty in raising a fair crop of corn in a large majority of the seasons. With the present high prices abroad, this subject is worthy the attention of the farmers of this valley.

Potatoes being the principal cultivated crop in this section of the country, too much cannot be said upon the subject, and without this report going into the merits of the question how far the farmers may be justified in devoting so much of their lands to this crop, the mode of cultivation, the sorts of potatoes, how cultivated, and other points connected therewith, we will just say, that from recent information, a check will be given to the exportation of potatoes to the U. States, in consequence of the existing trade regulations being about to be terminated. It becomes a matter of importance, then, what crop can be substituted at present, to a certain extent, for the potato in King's county? As regards the yield, we believe it will be an average crop,

and we are gratified to be able to report them well secured and comparatively free from disease.

Turnips are a light yield and of a very indifferent quality, which, we think, largely owing to the very dry season.

I beg to say that we have examined the several bills and accounts presented to the society, and find them as far as we know to be correct, and are gratified to know that up to this meeting the income of the society for the past year when collected, will quite meet the expenditure as will be shown by the report of the Secretary and Treasurer.

The two bulls belonging to the society are in fair condition for the season of the year.

The duties of the Secretary for the year have been arduous, involving considerable time and trouble, and we would recommend that the sum of fifteen dollars be given to him as a remuneration for his services, and think the society are largely indebted to that gentleman for the efficient and faithful manner in which he has performed his duties.

W. E. E. Dickey, Lower Canard, has been elected Secretary, in room of Dr. Hamilton, who has retired, but still takes an active interest in the society.

ROBT. W. STARR, *Chairman*.
LEANDER EATON,
JONATHAN RAND, } *Council*.
J. T. NEWCOMB,

Cornwallis, December, 1865.

KING'S COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

From the report it appears that the society has had an addition of twelve members during the past year, and its affairs are in a flourishing condition, except a low state of funds which was caused by a grant of \$80 to an Agricultural Exhibition. Number of members, 53.

The society took during the year some 40 copies of the Albany Cultivator, which have been extensively read, and which have diffused a vast amount of useful information, also ten copies of the "Journal of Agriculture," which are highly prized by its members. There have been visible improvements made in agriculture in this district since agricultural papers have been circulated; lands are better tilled, better fenced, stock much improved and better kept, fruit trees extensively planted and well cared for.

The society purchased a very superior bull from Cumberland County in the spring, and sold one which has been kept for three years, and intend to purchase one in his stead next spring; its stock now consists of one bull, two boar pigs, one Canadian ram, and one purchased at the sale of those imported from New Brunswick, last year; it also owns a corn shelter, a seed sower, a sub-soil plough, and a large roller, all for the use of its members.

The society expended \$80.00 towards the Exhibition held in Woolville, in October, which was well attended; a list of prizes have already been published. This sum, with the ordinary expenses of the society, and keeping its stock, has brought the society a little in debt to the treasurer.

The society did not hold its annual ploughing match this year, there not being any funds for that purpose.

With respect to the crops of the past season, the hay crop was not so abundant as last year, but was housed in excellent condition, the surplus of the last year's crop will fully supply the deficiency. But little wheat was sown in this district, and that sown in May was mostly destroyed by the weevil; a few fields sown in June partially escaped that destructive insect. A large breadth of land was planted with potatoes, crop good but not so abundant as last year, especially on dry soils, the tubers are excellent in quality and are keeping well in the cellars; large quantities are being shipped to the United States at remunerative prices. The usual breadth

was sown with oats, but the yield is below an average, and the straw short. A small breadth was planted with Indian corn and the crop good. Of rye and barley but little was sown here; the latter was a small crop. The vegetable crops were short, especially turnips and carrots.

The fruit crop was a partial failure; the crop of apples was very light, and also pears, but few plums, and cherries almost a total failure.

The principal crop cultivated by the farmers here is potatoes, and consequently they have to plant their lands for several years in succession; the soil is replenished with compost and marsh mud. Agricultural Exhibitions are doing much to stimulate the farmers here. Improvements are visible in every part of the district.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year at the annual meeting; viz:—

President, Stephen Gould; *Vice-President*, Leonard Newcomb; *2nd Vice-President*, Amos Black; *Secretary and Treasurer*, George Hamilton; *Assistant*, Thomas Tuse. *Directors*: William Kent, Edward P. Borden, William Falkner, George E. Cox.

RECEIPTS:—Balance in hand 1864, £22 14s. 7d.; bull, pigs, ram, &c., sold, and for services, £28 5s. 6d.; dues from members, £12 10s.; provincial grant, £16 15s.; total £79 14s. 9d. *PAYMENTS*:—bull purchased £12 10s.; amount for prizes, £20; boar pig, £2 14s. 6d.; do. £2 15s. 6d.; keep of animals, £36 4s. 2d.; working expenses, £5 15s. 10d.; balance due to Treasurer, December, 1865, 5s. 3d.

Lower Horton, Jan. 3rd, 1866.

AYLESFORD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

As the Aylesford Agricultural Society has been so lately organized, the report will not date far back; in November we tried to procure a ram but it being so late in the fall we could not get one to be of any benefit this year; our funds are therefore all in hand, but the Society has decided that the funds in hand would be better applied in the importation of Stock than in Shows, and they hope the Central Board will give their approval of such an appropriation.

The following are the names of the persons chosen for office for the year 1866:—*President*, Archibald Walker; *Vice-President*, Alexander Jacques; *Secretary*, John Foster; *Treasurer*, William Rhodes. *Directors*, George Foster, James Pierce, Edward Armstrong, Thos. Outhet, James P. Roach.

RULES OF THE AYLESFORD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

1st.—This Society shall be called the "Aylesford Agricultural Society." Its object shall be to promote the interest of farmers generally and this district particularly.

2nd.—The business of this Society shall be conducted by a committee consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and not more than five directors; any five of whom shall be a quorum to transact business.

3rd.—It shall be the business of the committee to carry all resolutions passed at any general meeting into effect.

4th.—There shall be one meeting of the society held annually on the first Tuesday in December, and special meetings shall be called when the business of the society require it.

5th.—Office bearers for the coming year shall be chosen annually by ballot at the meeting in December.

6th.—Any person may become a member of this society by paying one dollar to the treasurer annually; none shall be considered a member until this paid.

7th.—These rules may be altered or amended at any annual meeting by a majority of the members present.

8th.—All property belonging to this society shall at all times be held and owned by the existing members.

ARCHIBALD WALKER, *President*.
JOHN FOSTER, *Secretary*.