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NOVA SCOTIA

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

Omnium rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturâ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero: de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.

VOL. II.

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL, 1876.

No. 121.

THE PRIZE LIST AND REGULATIONS OF THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION OF AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY, to be held at Truro, 9th to 13th October, 1876, is now ready for distribution in pamphlet form. Copies may be obtained on application to W. D. Dimock, Secretary of the Exhibition Committee, Truro, to whom should likewise be addressed all enquiries for information respecting the Exhibition and arrangements connected therewith.

The Exhibition will be entirely managed by the Colchester Exhibition Committee.

Twenty copies of the Prize List will be sent, in course of a few days, to the Secretary of every Agricultural Society in the Province, from whom they may be obtained by Members or others.

The *Truro Sun* of 5th April, contains a reprint of the Prize List in full.

The Prize List will likewise be reprinted in next number of the *Journal of Agriculture*.

C. F. EATON, Esq., has purchased another splendid Short Horn Cow, for, we believe, \$250. Like the others, she was obtained in a neighbouring Province. These raids upon the New Brunswick Herds by private purchasers form a powerful auxiliary to the importations of the Board, which are as yet insufficient to meet the wants of Breeders.

THE Halifax County Agricultural Society's Ayrshire Bull was landed on Saturday morning, 1st April, from the "Austrian," and is now at Mr. Parker's stables on the Kempt Road. There are two styles of Ayrshire cattle, one a rough looking hardy breed, the old original sort, and another the "Improved Ayrshires," of which we have examples in Lord Lisgar, Pictou Charlie, and Belle of Avondale. The latest arrival is a fine specimen of the Improved Ayrshire. The following is an extract from Mr. Fleming's letter, written before the purchase was made: "He is a very fine yearling, and I should like very much to secure him for you. I think him by far the best I have seen this season, either for showing here, or for exportation. I have tried the owner over and over again for him, but cannot come to terms. I am still in hopes, however, of securing him sometime or other. His dam was a successful prize-taker, and his sire was shown here as a two-year old, and gained first prize, also medal as the best male animal shown. He was afterwards sold to go to the Queen. The owner considers the present one the best he ever had, and evidently expects him to follow in the footsteps of his sire, which I must say he is very like doing, so far as prize-taking goes. If I could get him at a reasonable price, I would take him, and would be quite pleased either to keep him myself or send him to you if you wished him."

S. H. CAWOOD'S Rose served 20th March by Viscount Oxford.

THE thorough-bred Jersey, Earl of Seafield, belonging to the Halifax County Agricultural Society, is in fine order. He is stationed at Mr. Parker's stables, Kempt-Road, and we hope that Members will avail themselves this season of the advantages offered by the presence of such a choice sire.

THE Morristown Agricultural Society of Antigonishe have purchased a Bull, a cross between Short Horn and Ayrshire, from the Yarmouth Township Agricultural Society for \$75.00, to be delivered in Halifax.

DR. LEWIS, Gorsebrook, has a thorough-bred Jersey Bull Calf, combining the best English and American Jersey blood, dropped last week.

As many persons might like both to buy and to sell Live Stock about the time of the Provincial Exhibition at Truro, it has been wisely remarked that the Colchester Exhibition Committee would merit the thanks of the Farmers if they organized a sort of FAIR in connection with the Exhibition, or made some other arrangement for the purchase and sale of stock.

WE understand that the Live Stock Committee of the Halifax County Society, have arranged to station the new Ayrshire Bull at Mr. Smith's, Quinpool Road, for the summer, for the convenience of Members.

The following Thorough Bred Animals have been added to the Nova Scotia Registers of their respective Breeds since last month :—

DEVON HEIFER CALF.

CXXXVI.—CAMELLIA, calved 26th Feb., 1876. Bred and owned by Colonel Laurie, Oakfield.

Sire—Havelock, (106). g. s. Prince of Wales.
Dam—Primrose, (102), by Wilnot.
g. dam—Lady Anne, (101), by Lord Elgin.
g. g. dam—Fancy, by Don Juan.

AYRSHIRE COW.

CXXXI.—LILLY 2ND, calved May, 1871. Bred by Thomas Guy, Oshawa, Ontario. The property of Henry Burrill, Yarmouth, N. S.

Sire—Eclipse, (137). g. sire—Cutlibert, imported by Mr. Cutlibert.

Dam—Scotch Lassie, by Prince of Wales, (305).

g. dam—Spot, by Rob Roy, imported, (135).
g. g. dam—White Lilly, by Dundee 3rd.
g. g. g. dam—Quebec, imported by Mr. Simpson, of Quebec.

AYRSHIRE HEIFER.

CXXXII.—LILLY 3RD, calved July 5th, 1874. Bred by and the property of Henry Burrill, Yarmouth, N. S. Color, red and white.

Sire—Lord Dufferin. g. sire—Lord Lisgar, (693).

Dam—Lilly 2nd, CXXXI, by Eclipse, (137).
g. dam—Scotch Lassie, by Prince of Wales, (305).

g. g. dam—Spot, by Rob Roy, imported, (135).

g. g. g. dam—White Lilly, by Dundee 3rd.
g. g. g. g. dam—Quebec, imported by Mr. Simpson, of Quebec.

AYRSHIRE HEIFER CALF.

CXXXIII.—LILLY 4TH, calved June 3rd, 1875. Bred by and the property of Henry Burrill, Yarmouth, N. S. Color, red and white.

Sire—Lord Dufferin. g. sire—Lord Lisgar, (693).

Dam—Lilly 2nd, CXXXI, by Eclipse, (137).
g. dam—Scotch Lassie, by Prince of Wales, (305).

g. g. dam—Spot, by Rob Roy, imported, (135).

g. g. g. dam—White Lilly, by Dundee 3rd.
g. g. g. g. dam—Quebec, imported by Mr. Simpson, of Quebec.

AYRSHIRE COW.

CXXXIV.—CROCUS 2ND, dark red and a little white. Bred by J. L. Gibb, Compton, Province Quebec, Canada. The property of W. E. Starratt, Annapolis County, N. S. Calved April 25th, 1873.

Sire—Mars, (298), 715, (bred by W. A. McLachlin, Auchentring, County of Stirling, Scotland), by Burnside.

Dam—Crocus, (524), bred by Alex. Vallance, Greathill, Strathaven, Scotland.
g. dam—Hairstock.

We are informed that there is some prospect of a litter of the universally admired Ellesmere pigs at Mount Hope. We trust the hope will not be disappointed, for there have been enquiries all winter from all quarters.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, FOR THE YEAR 1875.

Halifax, 18th February, 1876.

To the Honble. P. CARTERET HILL, Provincial Secretary :

Sir,—We have the honor to submit, for the information of the Government and the Legislature, the Annual Report of the Central Board of Agriculture for the year 1875, together with the Treasurer's Accounts of Income and Expenditure, as audited by the Finance Committee of the Board, up to the close of the year, and relative vouchers.

This Report embraces the customary statistics and other details relating to the operations of the Agricultural Societies throughout the various Counties of the Province, and, in addition, an Abstract of the Annual Reports of the Societies, as recommended last year by the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly. By reference to that portion of the Report, Members will be able to ascertain definitely how far the subscriptions and other funds raised by Societies, together with their annual grants from the Legislature, have been applied to the advancement of Agriculture in the respective Counties.

The County and District Societies in active operation under the Act for Encouragement of Agriculture, and entitled to participate in the Legislative Grant for the year 1875, were sixty-six in number; paying members 4140; total amount of subscriptions actually paid (as shown by the attested Returns) \$4757.75; total amount of Grants in Aid \$5790.50. It will be seen from the following tabular view of the statistical history of Societies during the past twelve years of the Board's existence that the number of Societies has risen from 37 to 66, that the number of members has increased from 1744 to 4140, and that the subscriptions of members have increased from \$1859.00 to \$4757.75. The Agricultural Societies of the Province, as a whole, have never before been in a condition so satisfactory as at the present time :—

YEAR.	Number of Societies.	Number of Members.	Amount of Subscriptions.	Grants in Aid.
1st year, 1864.....	37	1744	\$1859 00	\$3010 00
2nd " 1865.....	48	2197	2834 00	3314 00
3rd " 1866.....	52	2543	2850 00	3566 00
4th " 1867.....	53	2933	3051 50	3444 50
5th " 1868.....	45	2246	2519 75	3232 50
6th " 1869.....	43	2209	2540 50	3001 00
7th " 1870.....	49	2742	3040 00	3373 00
8th " 1871.....	57	3245	3672 80	3543 00
9th " 1872.....	60	3597	4004 50	3904 00
10th " 1873.....	61	3596	3929 00	5785 00
11th " 1874.....	64	3971	4495 00	5830 50
12th " 1875.....	66	4140	4757 75	5790 50

The number and strength of Agricultural Societies in each County of the

Province at the close of 1875 are shown in the following tabular statement, which, like the preceding statement, does not include Societies in course of formation, but only those whose returns were duly attested before the apportionment of the Legislative Grant for 1875 :—

COUNTIES.	Number of Societies.	Number of Members.	Am't. Annual Subscriptions.	Amount of Grant in Aid.
Annapolis.....	0	359	\$392 50	\$400 00
Antigonish.....	1	115	139 25	278 50
Cape Breton.....	3	189	150 00	360 00
Colchester.....	7	512	524 25	400 00
Cumberland.....	6	377	413 00	400 00
Digby.....	3	302	304 00	400 00
Guysborough.....	3	149	159 00	218 00
Halifax.....	2	261	293 50	400 00
Hants.....	4	333	415 00	400 00
Inverness.....	1	47	47 00	94 00
King's.....	5	317	520 00	400 00
Lennoxburg.....	1	110	110 00	220 00
Pictou.....	5	325	349 50	400 00
Queen's.....	3	125	125 00	250 00
Richmond.....	1	5	5 00	10 00
Shelburne.....	2	243	243 00	400 00
Victoria.....	5	135	125 00	210 00
Yarmouth.....	2	250	393 75	400 00
CG	4140	\$4757 75	\$5790 50	

The Board having experienced some difficulty in applying certain provisions of the Agricultural Act to the regulation of payments of grants to Societies, applied for advice to the Hon. Attorney General, who suggested an Amendment of the Act. The Board have appointed a Committee to consider this matter, and when the new Board meets, they will, no doubt, be prepared to bring the subject under the notice of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, with a view to obtain a remedy, and thus obviate any difficulty in future.

In accordance with the instructions of the House of Assembly, as conveyed to the Board by the Report of the Agricultural Committee of last session, the Board made an importation of live stock. The importation included six horses, obtained, some in the State of Maine, others in the Province of Quebec. They were selected with great care by David Matheson, Esq., a member of the Board, and Donald Archibald, Esq., M. P. P., Chairman of the Agricultural Committee.

The rest of the Stock was imported from England. The Secretary of the Board being home last summer on a visit, the Board, considering it unnecessary to incur the expense of sending any one specially to purchase, asked him before he returned to make suitable purchases, and bring the stock out with him in the steamer. This importation consisted of seventeen bulls, cows and heifers, viz: nine Short Horns, four Ayrshires, four Devons; nine pigs of the large white English and the Berkshire breeds; and seventeen Cotswold and Southdown rams and ewes.

The prices paid for the various animals, the expenses of transit, and the

proceeds of the sales will be found in detail in the Treasurer's Account. The following synopsis will show the gross expenditures and returns:—

NOTE OF COST AND PROCEEDS OF CATTLE AND HORSES.

Paid for Horses: Letter of Credit on New York for \$4500 00.....	\$4522 50
Loss cash returned by Messrs. Matheson and Archibald...	532 00
Net cost of Horses.....	3390 50
Paid for Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, Exchange for.....	£1690 1s. 10d.....\$3000 09
Less Cash returned by Secre- tary.....	1303 51
Net cost of Cattle, Sheep and Pigs.....	6696 49
Total cost of both importa- tions.....	\$10686 99
Total proceeds of sale.....	5817 50
Loss.....	\$4869 49

The above loss, together with expense of stabling in Halifax, advertising sale, and minor expenses not yet fully settled, will be covered by the vote of \$5000, made by the Legislature last year, and interest on the Stock Farm Fund, which latter can thus be replaced to its original amount of \$8000.00 so soon as the proceeds of the sale are realized.

In accordance with the Act of last session, the Board have made necessary preliminary arrangements for a Provincial Exhibition of Agricultural Products and Industries, to be held in the autumn of the present year. They have accepted an offer from the Colchester Exhibition Committee, who undertake to carry out the Exhibition at Truro, in terms of the Act, and to the satisfaction of the Board, and to provide accommodation for the Live Stock and other exhibits at least equal to that afforded at the Provincial Exhibition held in Halifax in 1874. It is hoped that the Prize List and Regulations will be ready for circulation before the close of the present session of the Provincial Parliament.

By order of the Central Board of Agriculture.

J. WIMBURN LAURIE,
President.
GEORGE LAWSON,
Secretary.

We had an opportunity recently of visiting the Poultry Yards at Sunnyside, Dutch Village, where Mr. Andrew MacKinlay has established a Poultry Breeding establishment. Several kinds of thorough-bred Birds are kept, and the Partridge Cochius are certainly the noblest specimens of Poultry we have seen for many a day. The Pekin Ducks are young and promise to be very fine. The light Brahma flock has been reinforced by a Rooster of great pretensions from a celebrated Breeder in the United States.

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

*Committee Room, Provincial Library,
20th March, 1876.*

The Board met this morning in accordance with order of the Governor in Council.

Present—Hon. Daniel McDonald, M. E. C., Antigonish; Colonel Laurie, Representative of Agricultural District No. 1; W. E. Starratt, Esq., Representative of Agricultural District No. 2; C. E. Brown, Esq., Representative of Agricultural District No. 3; Israel Longworth, Esq., Representative of Agricultural District No. 4; David Matheson, Esq., Representative of Agricultural District No. 5; John Ross, Esq., Representative of Agricultural District No. 6.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Ross, and passed unanimously, that Colonel Laurie be elected President.

Moved by Mr. Matheson, seconded by Mr. Longworth, that John Ross, Esq., be elected Vice-President, which was about to pass, when Mr. Ross objected. He thanked the Board for their intention, which he regarded as a compliment to Cape Breton as well as himself, but on account of the distance he thought he would not be an efficient Vice-President, and moved the election of Mr. Matheson.

Mr. Brown seconded the nomination of Mr. Matheson as Vice-President, and expressed his coincidence with Mr. Ross's view. The motion was unanimously passed.

On motion of Mr. Starratt, seconded by Mr. Ross, Professor Lawson was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer.

The committee appointed to propose amendments of the Act for Encouragement of Agriculture reported, and most of the forenoon was spent in discussing the working of the Act, and suggesting necessary changes.

Mr. Brown stated that as the railway will shortly bring Digby and Yarmouth into closer contact, it will be well to modify District No. 3, so as to make it consist of Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne, transferring Queen's county to District No. 2, which includes also King's and Annapolis, and associating Lunenburg with Halifax county as District No. 1. Mr. Brown moved accordingly that the committee incorporate this change in the schedule to the Act, which was seconded by Mr. Ross, and passed.

The amended Act was referred back to the committee for the incorporation of this and other changes suggested.

Mr. Longworth submitted papers in reference to the Ayrshire Stock Register, and Messrs. Matheson, Starratt, and Brown were requested to examine the Register and report to the Board:

The Board then adjourned till half-past 2 o'clock.

Committee Room, half-past 2 p. m.

Business resumed. Present: Colonel Laurie, President, Messrs. Matheson, Brown, Longworth, Starratt, Ross, and the Secretary.

It was resolved to invite the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly to a conference with the Board tomorrow morning at eleven o'clock, or at any time more convenient for them.

The Board discussed in detail the subject of stock importations, and arrived at the conclusion that the importation this year should consist chiefly of Short Horns and Ayrshires, with a few Devons, and a fair selection of pigs and sheep of different breeds. Estimates of probable cost and proceeds were made up.

The Board then adjourned till tomorrow morning.

Tuesday, 21st March, half-past 10 a. m.

Present: Colonel Laurie, President, D. Matheson, Esq., V. P., I. Longworth, Esq., C. E. Brown, Esq., W. E. Starratt, Esq., John Ross, Esq., Professor Lawson, Secretary.

Mr. Longworth reported the proposed Amendment of the Agricultural Act, which, on motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Starratt, was finally adjusted and approved of, with a view to be submitted to the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly.

The Secretary submitted a communication received this morning from the Secretary of the Sydney Agricultural Society, which had been in rather an inactive state, but has lately been revived with prospect of usefulness. By invitation of the President, T. E. Mosely, Esq., M.P.P. attended the meeting, and explained the position of affairs to the Board, and the causes of delay in completing the Society's returns, which had been forwarded in December, but sent back to Cape Breton for completion, whereby the society's grant was not included in the report of the Board.

On motion of Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Brown, resolved that in view of the explanation, the balance of unappropriated grant (\$40.00) in Cape Breton county be appropriated to the Sydney Society.

Mr. Starratt introduced to the Board Leander Pand, Esq., of Cornwallis, who made a statement in reference to the recently formed Farmers' Agricultural Society, of North-east Cornwallis. The President explained that the action of the Board in regard to that society had been taken after very careful consideration, and was founded upon the opinion of the Hon. Attorney General. Mr. Brown and other

members explained the theory of the working of societies under the Act, whereby the existence of societies dates from the first Tuesday of December of one year to the first Tuesday of December of the next, and that societies formed towards the close of a year naturally draw their grant not for that year, but for the ensuing or current year. However, to prevent any future difficulty, the Board have recommended an amendment upon the Act, so as to make the matter perfectly clear.

The Board then adjourned till half-past two.

Tuesday, March 21,
half-past 2 o'clock, p. m.

The Board again assembled. Present—the same members as in the forenoon.

Mr. Longworth presented, on behalf of the Colchester Exhibition Committee, the Draft Prize List for the Provincial Exhibition of Agricultural Industry to be held by said Committee, under the auspices of the Board, at Truro in October next.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Ross, and resolved, for various reasons assigned, That the Provincial Exhibition should be held during the second week of October, commencing (for arrangement of exhibits) on Monday, the 9th.

The Board then proceeded to consider in detail the programme and rules and regulations for conducting the Exhibition. These were fully discussed and adjusted. The Board had arrived at the commencement of the list of premiums, when it was found necessary to adjourn. The prize list will be resumed to-morrow morning.

JOINT MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD.

*Committee Room, Provincial Library,
22nd March, 1876.*

The Board met at half-past ten o'clock. Present: Colonel Laurie, President, David Matheson, Esq., V. P., Hon. Daniel McDonald, C. E. Brown, Esq., I. Longworth, Esq., W. E. Starratt, Esq., John Ross, Esq., Professor Lawson, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meetings (as above reported) were read and confirmed.

At eleven o'clock the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Assembly attended by invitation of the Board, viz: Donald Archibald, Esq., M.P.P., chairman; Avar Longley, Esq., M.P.P., Annapolis; Hon. John McKinnon, M.P.P., Inverness; John B. North, Esq., M.P.P., Kings; Alexander McKay, Esq., M.P.P., Pictou; J. Newton Mack, Esq., M.P.P., Queen's; Albert Gayton, Esq., M.P.P., Yarmouth.

Colonel Laurie stated that the recently

appointed Board of Agriculture, now assembled, had re-elected him President, and it was therefore his duty to be the mouthpiece of the Board in explaining to the Agricultural Committee the present state of affairs, and the prospective work in which they hoped to engage. The object of this joint meeting was, in fact, to afford full information as to the work done during the past year, and to confer as to what should be done in the future. The annual report was in the hands of members, but if it was desired to make any enquiry, or to obtain any additional information as to the past expenditure, or other financial details, the Treasurer was prepared to afford any explanations required. Referring to the past the President said that the Board felt the great want of the Province was an improvement upon the different kinds of Live Stock. As an obvious means of accomplishing this improvement, importations of animals were made from other countries where greater advances had been effected. But importations were found to be expensive, and the prices realized were at first very low. It was felt that we should be independent of high foreign markets, and accordingly a vote was made for a stock farm. But a vote was not made to purchase animals to stock it; hence the stock farm has not been established. The money, however, has not been idle. It has been by its means, aided by occasional grants from the Legislature, that the several importations have been made during the last ten or twelve years, which have brought about such a change in the character of our live stock, and the \$8,000 is still intact on interest, ready to float another importation. Meantime, private persons have engaged in breeding pure stock, so that instead of having one stock farm, managed by the Government, we have now a multiplicity of them in several counties, such as Kings, Annapolis, Yarmouth, Hants, Colchester, Halifax, and perhaps others, managed by private persons, and with private capital,—on a small scale, it is true, but with great scope for development. These breeders may, in a few years, be able to supply the whole Province with male animals for the improvement of stock. But, in our Peninsular country, far away from the great centres of thoroughbred stock, the obtaining of superior animals from time to time to keep up good herds, is difficult, uncertain, and expensive. It is necessary, for this reason, to import animals now of a higher class than ever, so that breeders of pure stock may be encouraged, and enabled to supply others at reasonable prices with the animals needed for effecting general improvement in our herds and flocks. The importation of last year had been spoken of with approval all over this Continent, and it

was important to keep up the reputation our stock had in consequence acquired. This could only be done by annual importations, and from the disposition of the committee last year the Board had no hesitation in bringing their proposals before them on this occasion.

Mr. Longworth explained in detail the reasons that had led the Board to suggest the several amendments proposed to the Agricultural Act.

Mr. Starratt spoke of the great importance of agriculture as the foundation of all other interests. The importation of pure stock means the bringing of *productive* wealth into the country. Those who purchase benefit, those who cannot afford to purchase get benefit from the importations, and the whole country benefits. Meat, and cheese, and wool are produced not only of a better quality but at a less consumption of food. Countries like England never could have succeeded in manufactures without perfect cultivation of the soil, which was, after all, the great interest of every country.

Mr. Brown explained, in reference to the proposed change in the counties included in agricultural districts, that when the original distribution was made the shore counties were not advanced in agriculture, and there were no Western railways, and that the arrangement proposed would be found more convenient now.

Mr. Longley enquired whether the Board had considered the propriety of limiting the number of societies in a county. He thought the increase to seven societies, as in some counties, was injurious, as the grant of \$400, when divided by seven or more, was not sufficient to give effective encouragement to any of them. He believed that six should be the ultimate limit as regards numbers in one county.

Mr. Matheson expressed the difficulty the Board felt in this matter.

Mr. McKay thought Mr. Longley's proposal might tend to obstruct the formation of societies in outlying districts where some encouragement was needful, and that the country was not yet prepared for concentration.

The President explained that while the Act allowed nominally \$400 to each county, yet some counties did not qualify for the full allowance, and the sum total allowed to the Board and expended by them, instead of being \$7,200 for the 18 counties, was only \$6,000 annually.

Mr. Starratt looked to a future coalescing of adjoining societies, so as to lessen the number and increase their strength. Colonel Laurie instanced Colchester as having formed one strong society with branches ramifying over a wide area, and supplying several districts with the use of animals in a most effective manner.

Mr. Longley suggested to the Board a reorganization of societies,—placing each in its proper district and within proper limits.

Mr. Matheson said Mr. Longley's views were exactly those that had been arrived at by the Board, but the difficulty was to work them out.

A statement of the probable grants required for the present year was then submitted for consideration.

Mr. Longley thought that appropriations should depend upon the financial state of the Province, and be made from year to year accordingly.

Mr. Mack said: There are other branches of industry of importance in this country besides agriculture, yet it is the only one encouraged; it is the only one that is not in a languishing condition, and it is the agricultural counties that derive the benefit of the railways that have been built with the public money. He thought any increase in the grant should be carefully considered, that money should be properly applied, and was glad to hear the explanation that had been given as to the reason that animals had not realized better prices at the sale. He was inclined to oppose too much money being spent on importations, and especially the expenditure of societies in supplying their members with grain.

Mr. Longworth suggested that an importation might be made at the time of the Provincial Exhibition, which would be a good occasion for selling.

Mr. Gayton said it was true in one sense that agricultural industry was encouraged at the expense of others, but he had good authority for saying that no Local Government could directly give any effective encouragement to fishermen as they could do to farmers.

Col. Laurie instanced the expenditure by the Dominion Government on navigation securities, which benefited the fishermen and shipping interests, and required a very large, but at the same time judicious, expenditure of public money, derived from the farmers as well as others.

Mr. North said he represented an agricultural county, and had strong sympathies with the farmers, and a greater love of the farmyard than even the shipyard. The present depression in other industries was the result of overactivity in the past. Agriculture, more than any other, is a productive interest, the foundation of all prosperity. Agriculture supplies the life-blood of a country; stop the shipping, and you stop its circulation. Traders are gleaners. More production and less trading is the panacea for our present depression. We cannot encourage agriculture too much, only what money we give should be judiciously expended. Let us do what we can now, and establish

our agriculture that it may flourish in the future whatever may happen. He thought importations might be accomplished to some extent by agents in countries where good stock are to be found. He likewise suggested higher premiums for thoroughbred animals, and the encouragement of private persons willing to import suitable animals by offering special premiums.

Mr. McKay said in his county more attention was required to grades. His constituents thought the pedigree animals got the lion's share of the prizes. He handed in a letter from Pictou County on this subject, which the President said would be considered by the Board.

Mr. Longley called attention again to Mr. North's suggestion that as the Board did not propose to import horses this year they might accomplish as much by offering a premium of three or four hundred dollars for the importation of a horse by a private individual, as if they imported one at the expense of the Province.

Several other suggestions of a practical kind were made.

The views expressed by members of the Board and the explanations given, appeared to be generally satisfactory to the committee.

The various suggestions of the committee will be fully considered by the Board to-morrow.

The joint meeting was a very satisfactory one. Both bodies had but one object in view—the advancement of our agriculture—their opinions as to the most satisfactory mode of accomplishing this were not diverse, and their harmony of action is the best security that it will be attained.

—
*Committee Room,
March, 23, 1876.*

The Board resumed business this morning. Present—Colonel Laurie (President), Messrs. Matheson, Brown, Ross, Starratt and the Secretary. Mr. Longworth had been suddenly called away by telegram on account of family sickness.

A return received from the Arisaig Society was submitted, but not having been furnished before the close of the year, and being imperfect, the Society could not participate in the grant for 1875.

The Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly joined the Board at noon, viz: Donald Archibald, Esq., Chairman; Avar Longley, Esq., Alexander McKay, Esq., J. N. Mack, Esq., J. B. North, Esq., Albert Gayton, Esq.

Mr. Archibald stated that the committee had examined the accounts of the Board and were well satisfied with the proceedings of the past year, and, after careful consideration, had agreed to recommend the amounts necessary for carrying

out the purposes of the Board for the present year.

A discussion ensued as to the propriety of allowing societies to use grade bulls. The President, Mr. McKay, Mr. Ross, Mr. North, and Mr. Longley severally expressed their views. The general impression was that we had not yet arrived at that stage of progress which would enable the Board to limit societies strictly to full-pedigree animals, but that no animal should be used by any society unless it had some crosses of pure blood, and had, at least, one of its parents recorded in the Register.

The President explained the nature of the proposed importation of stock, which, he thought, ought to be obtained in England.

Mr. McKay thought the expense of sending a deputation would be too great, as they would have to stay there some time before they found out where and how to purchase the best animals. Mr. North thought if a good agent could be got it would be the better way. Mr. Longley would prefer if twenty or thirty thousand dollars were at the Board's disposal, to send a person, but with so small a sum as we have to deal with, the Board ought to avail themselves of the Secretary's experience, acquired during his residence in England last summer, and rely upon agents. Economy and discretion had been shown in the last importation, and he hoped the Board would have results as satisfactory to show with the next.

Mr. Longley called the attention of the Board to the importance of Local Exhibitions.

The President explained that one reason why Colchester had been selected for the Provincial Exhibition was that permanent buildings were offered. In whatever counties these should be erected it would be an inducement for local exhibitions in future years.

After the Agricultural Committee retired the Board made arrangement for future work.

They meet at Oakfield to-morrow (Friday) morning, by invitation of the President, to examine his Herd of Devons.

—
Tuesday, March 28th, 1876.

The Board met by adjournment this morning and sat till evening, Colonel Laurie presiding. The whole day was spent in a final revision of the Prize List of the Provincial Exhibition of Agricultural Industry to be held at Truro during the second week of October. Mr. Blair, President of the Colchester Exhibition Committee, stated that he expected the Prize List would be printed and ready for circulation in the course of about ten days.

Several applications from Societies for recognition under the Act were deferred

for future consideration, on account of contemplated changes in the provisions of the Act embodied in a bill now before the House of Assembly.

Moved by Mr. Ross, seconded by Col. Starratt, and unanimously resolved,

"That the best thanks of the Central Board are due to the Secretary, Professor Lawson, for the attention given by him to carrying out the views of the Board and Legislature relative to an importation of stock into this Province, in devoting a large portion of his leisure when in England to making a suitable selection of thorough-bred stock; for the care and judgment which characterized this selection; for the unwearied attention given by him to the animals both previous to and during the voyage, thereby securing their arrival in good condition; and for the economy with which the whole transaction was managed."

THE Hen Fever has this season broken out in the useful form of advertisements of Eggs for Hatching. Any one may now get the best of poultry blood without buying twenty dollar hens. Intending competitors at the Truro Exhibition had better secure their Eggs at once, so as to have time to feed up fine Show Birds. The advantage of getting Eggs at home instead of from abroad is that a larger number may be expected to hatch. The motion of railcars and steamboats is trying for eggs.

WE are glad to find that some of our Poultry Breeders have lately imported fine strains from the most celebrated breeders in the States, both of Birds and Eggs. This will enable them to keep up their stock to a high standard.

AT this particular season of the year we periodically receive a large number of letters of enquiry for Bulls suitable for Agricultural Societies. We have, on this account, taken some pains to ascertain the whereabouts of likely animals, and the prices at which they may be obtained. Any Societies desiring information respecting such will please describe the kind of animals that would best suit them, breed, age, size, etc., and state the prices they are willing to give. In reply to all such enquiries we shall send the address of the owner of what appears to be the most suitable animal, so that the parties may make their bargain.

CALVING OF COWS.

ABOUT three weeks or less before calving, what is termed "springing" takes place. Old Skellett, "professor of that part of the veterinary art," thus describes and defines this somewhat ambiguous term:—"The space between the shape and udder becomes redder and more florid than usual; the udder, as formerly observed, is gradually distending; and

the ligaments, or joinings of the bones, termed the couples, on each side of the rump, are by degrees giving way, till a yielding or something like a separation of them is felt. When these appearances all show themselves, the cow is at her full time, and should be narrowly watched, as she may be hourly expected to calve." Again, with reference to the immediate symptoms of calving, the same good practical authority, who, as he informs us in his preface, treats "of what he has seen and done in practice himself," goes on to remark:—"When the operation of calving actually begins, then signs of uneasiness and pain appear. A little elevation of the tail is the first mark; the animal shifts about from place to place, frequently getting up and lying down, not knowing what to do with herself. She continues some time in this state, till the natural throes or pains come on." By these pains "the contents of the womb are pushed forward at every throe, the water bladder begins to show itself beyond the shape. . . . After the discharge of the water the body of the womb contracts rapidly upon the calf; in a few succeeding throes, or pains, the head and feet of it, the presenting parts, are protruded externally beyond the shape. The body next descends, and in a few pains the delivery of the calf is complete."

The treatment of natural calving is very simple. When, as very frequently happens, the whole period of active labour is not more than two hours, the operator will do well to leave nature alone, and preserve the attitude of a passive observer. When the water bladder breaks before it has properly expanded the mouth of the womb, the process of parturition is often slow. If under these circumstances the head and feet of the calf are long in appearing, the arm should be introduced, and the forelegs laid hold of so as to bring them into the passage. The strength of the operator ought to be used in unison with the natural efforts of the cow, and this simple measure will usually rapidly deliver the calf.

The preternatural positions in which aid is absolutely required are of the same character in the case of both cows and ewes, so that a knowledge of the one animal cannot be attained without a corresponding knowledge of the other. Mr. Skellett gives coloured plates of all the principal departures from a normal presentation.

The first is when both forelegs are back, the knees being bent, and the head alone in the passage. In this position the calf is apt to be strangled, owing to the pressure of the parts of the cow around the neck, which is unprotected by the forelegs. Under these circumstances the head sometimes swells to an amazing size, and must be removed before the

fetus can be extracted. Such a sad conclusion can, however, only be looked upon as caused by most culpable carelessness.

The second preternatural position is when the head slips down below the brisket, pressing hard on the uterus, and its forelegs over its neck.

The third difficulty is that of a breech presentation with the hocks bent and the hind feet under the belly. No cow could calve without assistance with such a presentation, but the operation is simple, and does not involve turning the calf, but merely bending back the hocks, getting the hind feet, and drawing the calf out backwards.

A fourth case described and figured is when the head is laid against the side of the abdomen or belly, the fore feet being stretched forward, a position not unlike that sometimes assumed by animals when sleeping.

Next the calf is depicted upon its back in the uterus, being simply upside down; and, lastly, there is a descriptive plate of the position of twins in the womb.

The treatment under all these cases would take us beyond our prescribed limits, but in all (except the breech presentation) the efforts of the operator are to be directed towards restoring the calf to its position. Are its forelegs back? they must be brought forwards. Is its head laid against its side? it must be pulled forwards. The calf has often to be pushed back into the roomy cavity of the uterus, in order to allow of these changes in position being effected, and a cord is also employed to fasten around the fetlocks or jaw, and furnished with a running noose, by which the operator and his assistant may pull the offending part into position. The parts must be well lubricated with lard, and all efforts of the operator must harmonise with the natural throes of the cow. *Skellett on the Cow* is still a useful book to the dairyman and cowkeeper, although it has been published 32 years.—*Agricultural Gazette*.

Dr. W. J. LEWIS, Gorsebrook, has sold the Ayrshire Cow Crocus 2nd, CXXXIV, to W. E. Starratt, Esq., Paradise, Ann., for \$175.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF MILK.

JERSEY MILK.

THE Jersey milk separates its cream more completely than either the Ayrshire or Dutch milk, and its cream usually churns into butter more readily. The variation between time occupied in churning, is determined by the milk globule, and we find that the cream with the largest globule takes less time to churn. The globule varies in size, according to circumstances affecting the same cow, and

we thus have an individual as well as a breed variation, but as far as I have determined, within defined limits. Should milk be desired for the supply of families, the Jersey milk, from these qualities, which give it value for butter, is unfitted. The cream finding its way to the surface so speedily and completely, allows a different quality of product to be furnished to consumers of the same can. If each consumer received the same quality each day, this would make less difference, but he who receives a quart of cream to-day, is dissatisfied with the quart of blue milk received at another time, and is apt to talk mysteriously about "trout" and "presumptive evidence." This feature of delivery, perhaps, can be obviated by increasing care on the part of the man who delivers, but the trouble is present, and is a necessity.

Again, this quality would seem to render the milk of the Jersey cows unsuited for the cheese manufacturer. As I gather from the conversations and writings of these people, there is difficulty experienced in retaining the cream in the cheese. A certain quantity rising to the surface in the intervals of manipulation, will not again mix with milk in the ordinary process of making, and is accordingly lost to the cheese. A milk whose globule rises quickly and completely, would seem to aggravate this trouble whenever used.

For butter the Jersey milk is well suited. The cream rises quickly to the surface, and churns with great facility under favorable circumstances, and little of the butter remains in the skim milk. The size of the globule, however, allows a large amount of nitrogenous matter to remain entangled with the butter, and theoretically would effect its keeping qualities, as ordinarily made. The butter is usually of an orange color, and a judgment can be formed of the depth of color the cow will give to her butter, by examining the wax secretion of the ear. This secretion, it will be remembered, like the butter, changes color by exposure to the air, and is probably affected by the "feed" of the cow. Some experience, and a knowledge of physiological reasons, is required to interpret this indication correctly.

AYRSHIRE MILK.

The milk of the Ayrshire cow is habitually used in Scotland for the manufacture of either butter or cheese, or both.—The effect of this on her breeding has been to build up one class of cows which are excellent butter makers, and another class better suited to the production of cheese.—The cow which occupies a place between these two extremes, is valuable both for the production of butter and cheese, although not equal to the typical

extremes for the production of either product alone. This division is not only indicated by experimental practice, but also by the appearance of milk globules under the microscope. The butter family of Ayrshires are large milkers, and their milk shows a globule not equal in size to that from the Jersey milk, yet large enough to indicate excellent butter qualities. The butter is of yellow color, often deep, yet not possessing that peculiar orange color which is often characteristic of the product of the Jersey cow. Its quantity is large at the period of greatest flow, and, as far as our facts indicate, the cow of this division yields a large annual product.

The cheese family of Ayrshires furnish a large secretion of milk, containing a small globule and more numerous granules than does the milk from the butter family. The cream rises to the surface less completely, and mixes again more readily. A practical difference between the milk of the families is the greater uniformity of constitution of the milk after standing in one case than in the other.

The predominant feature of the Ayrshire milk from that of all other breeds, is the occurrence of abundant granules or extremely small globules which gives a white rather than a blue appearance to the milk.

HOLSTEIN MILK.

The Dutch milk has small globules, smaller than the Ayrshire, more uniform in their sizes, and a far less number so small as to be called granules. The cream accordingly rises somewhat slower than the Ayrshire cream, and leaves a blue skim milk. The cream seems to mix with the skim milk quite readily by agitation.

Our statements in regard to this milk may seem paradoxical. The cream rises quicker than does the Ayrshire cream, when considered with reference to the whole amount; for there is always a larger number of granules left in the Ayrshire milk, because there is not time between the setting and coagulation for gaining the surface. On the other hand, a certain amount of cream rises to the surface quicker than does the Dutch cream. When the two milks are placed in percentage glasses, side by side, the Ayrshire milk will throw up five per cent., while the Dutch milk is throwing up four; and the Dutch milk will have thrown up ten per cent. while the Ayrshire milk has thrown up eight; but perhaps if both are left to the last moment before coagulation, the Dutch milk will show ten per cent., while the Ayrshire may show twelve. This statement is not exact, but a suppositious one, for the purpose of illustration, being founded on impressions of mine, rather than on

proof. The butter family of Ayrshires will throw up the same percentage of cream quicker than will the Dutch milk I have used in my trials.

For a single experiment, the butter made from this milk was of a pale yellow, deficient in orange. It was of a firm, yet not waxy texture, and displays great keeping qualities. The milk was a long time in churning, as would be expected from the size of the globule. The quality of the globule fits this milk well for the cheese-maker, yet the absence of the granule in numbers, as is indicated by the blue skim milk, renders it inferior to the Ayrshire for this purpose.

E. T. STURTEVANT, M. D.

—Rural Home.

A WESTERN AMERICAN DAIRY CONVENTION.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—The 10th annual meeting of the North-Western Dairymen's Association was held last week, and perhaps a brief account may be of interest to your readers. This Association has its membership mainly in Northern Illinois and different parts of Wisconsin. It holds an annual meeting, which continues two or three days, and at which addresses are delivered and discussions held on matters pertaining to the dairy. The members are mainly proprietors of butter or cheese factories, and persons employed in such factories, although there is a good number of the dairy farmers among those who attend the meetings. It will be remembered, also, that the factories are generally owned by a dairy farmer, or a company of such farmers. The region indicated produced, in 1875, perhaps 25,000,000 lb. of cheese. The amount of butter produced can not be stated. There are not far from 100 factories giving attention to butter-making—generally in connection with skim-cheese. In addition there are a considerable number of butter dairies of good size. The cheese interest has been almost entirely developed since the Association in question was organized.

The recent meeting was held at Fort Atkinson, in Central Wisconsin. The residents of the village and the dairymen living near, took those in attendance to their homes. Another pleasant feature was that during the session there were frequently 100 wives and daughters of dairymen and other representatives of the gentler sex in attendance. A dairy farmer's wife read an excellent paper on "The Children of the Farm." Still another was, that one evening was devoted to a public supper, with appropriate toasts, pledged in—milk.

There was a general recognition that last year had been a less prosperous one for Western dairymen than its predecessor.

ors, but it was claimed that no other branch of agriculture had been so uniformly prosperous in the last decade as had dairying. The future was thought not discouraging. More attention to home markets was urged in connection with greater efforts to adapt the cheese exported to the wishes of the consumers. For the English trade it was stated that the cheese most desirable were those pressed in hoops 13½ or 14 inches in diameter, the cheese being 8 to 10 inches deep, of solid texture, and of as good quality as could be secured. Much of this cheese might be white or uncoloured. For a considerable part of the American trade cheese 15 or 16 inches and 4 to 6 inches deep, of comparatively soft, open "make" were preferred. The manufacture of skim-milk cheese was generally condemned as injuring the general reputation of all cheese made in the West, as tending to reduce the consumption from its inferior quality, and, while for a time perhaps more profitable, ultimately disastrous to the makers. J. H. Wanzer, of Illinois, who has made 1,500,000 lb. of skim-cheese in the last six years, claimed that his experiments showed that it is more profitable to feed the skim milk to calves or pigs than to make it into cheese.

Whether the dairy farmer should give much attention to other branches was discussed in a paper, the argument of which was that it was best to give almost exclusive attention to the dairy, producing the food needed for the cows, rearing enough calves to keep up the herd, and making grass the main crop of the farm.

The general expression was decidedly in favor of dairymen rearing their cows instead of buying them. One very successful dairyman, who has produced over 600 lb. of cheese per cow per year for four successive years, claimed that, starting with a lot of calves to be raised by himself, and an equal number of such cows as one could ordinarily buy, the product from the calves would equal that from the cows at the end of 10 years—those raised by him giving as much milk in eight years as the purchased cows in 10.

Summer droughts are the most serious obstacle to dairying in this region. Indian corn, sown or drilled and cultivated, was generally pronounced the cheapest and most trustworthy provision against these. The quantity of food thus secured is very great, and it is also valuable for use in winter if not needed in summer. Winter dairying, or the plan of having the cows calve in the fall, is growing more common in this region. For butter making this plan has some marked advantages.

In a discussion on legal protection against adulteration of milk, it was stated by a factory proprietor that the average quality of the milk received by him was

not so good as it was five years since. This was attributed, in good part, to the habit of selecting cows with reference to the quantity of milk given without regard to the quality. Where the milk is delivered to a factory, the farmer's profit is in accord with the amount delivered, and he has little motive to very carefully consider its quality. Cleanliness is insisted on, as is freedom from skimming and watering. These practices can generally be detected.

Statements of yield were not given, except incidentally. One member reports a product of over 300 lb. of butter per cow last year for his herd of about 100. Another, with a smaller herd, made a similar statement, but he keeps his cows farrow, disposing of them when the supply of milk begins to fail, supplying their places with new-milch cows. About 600 lb. of cheese was the largest report made for last year.

Valuable papers were presented on butter and cheese-making, but no summary can here be given. This is true also of many discussions during the meeting.

It may be of interest to state that the lands owned by the dairy-farmers represented by this Association are worth, on an average, 35 dols. or 40 dols. per acre, the cows 30 dols. each. The factory buildings are generally cheaply constructed, costing from 1000 dols. to 5000 dols. each. The average price for the cheese made last year was 11½ cents, not counting that made from milk partly or wholly skimmed, which sold at from 7 to 10½ cents; the creamery or factory butter sold at from 30 to 38 cents. The farmers who sold their milk to the factory men received from 90 cents to 1 dol. per 100 lb. Those who had it manufactured on the co-operative plan, which class was the larger, netted about the same. Where milk is bought in winter, 1 dol. 25 cents is sometimes paid per 100 lb.

There is no reason to doubt that dairying will continue to prosper in a large part of the "North-west," and that the exports of cheese from this region to England will, in a few years, become an important factor in the cheese supply of Britain.—G. E. MORROW, in *Agricultural Gazette*, (London).

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